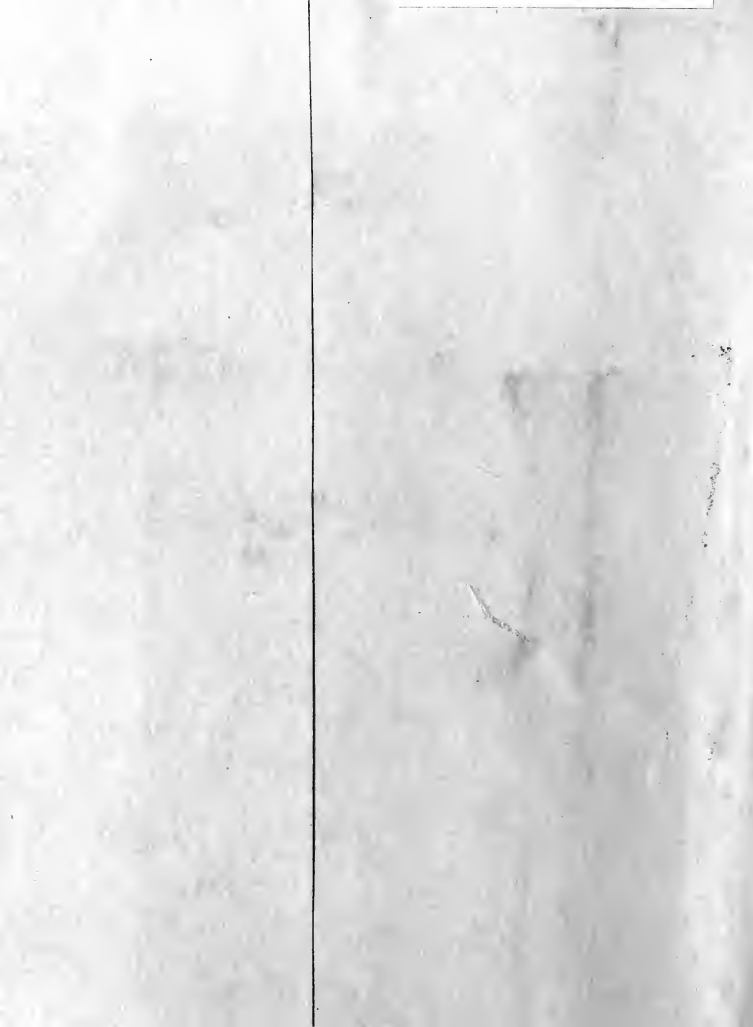


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The Storm Center



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THE

✓  
STORM CENTER

OR

WHY THESE PANICS ?

AND HOW TO

REMEDY THEM.

—————  
All there is in life is the good that is gotten out of it.  
Hoarded wealth is of no use to the man who is dead.

—————  
PUBLISHED BY  
THE EUREKA PUBLISHING CO.  
408 Genesee Ave., Saginaw, Mich.

28241-2

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## The Authors' Preface.

It is our intention in the following pages to show you, if possible, that "The Storm Centre" of our present hard times is the question of finance, which has made it possible for the capitalist to form and control the railroad combines, the land syndicates, the manufacturing combines, and, in fact, rings, trusts and combines of all kinds. The principle *one*, however, is the "National Bankers' Association," which we shall endeavor in the following pages to show up in all its hideous deformity. In doing this we shall give you that much abused Hazzard circular, ask you to read it carefully and then follow the association through and see if it has not followed the circular *to the letter*. We shall also show you the circulars of the association from its secretary to the banks, in 1876 and 1896, and we ask you to *note them carefully* and see if they, too, are not in direct accord with the Hazzard circular. Then we will show you the panic circular of 1893, and we ask you by all means to read this one. Then look around you and see the ruin this accursed system has wrought. When you have got through with the "National Bankers' Association" use your own good judgment and see if the banks have not obeyed that English Hazzard circular to the detriment of you, my brother laborer, and in the interest of that power which has combined to make slaves of the many and *masters* of the few. We will give you, also, *two* sections of the law creating National Banks; one to show that their bills are nothing but *endorsed notes*, and that *you* are the involuntary endorser, and are obliged to protest *your own note*. The other to show you that a National Bank

bill is not a legal tender among the people, but only between the government and you as a creditor, and between you and the government, but is not a legal tender between individuals.

We give Hon. S. S. Marshall's expose on July 21st, 1868, on the floors of congress. Read it by all means. It will tell you how we come by so many millionaires. This was your money, given to this company by your agents, the government officials, to rob you by fraud and make more millionaires.

We give you also a glimpse at English history to show that we are doing the bidding of the "mother country" to our own detriment, to build a monied oligarchy. We show you also the drift of our property into the hands of the few, and hence the disappearance of the *great middle class*, leaving only the very rich and the very poor.

We try to give some reasons why the laboring people should begin to be a little selfish, as they say the silver mine owners are.

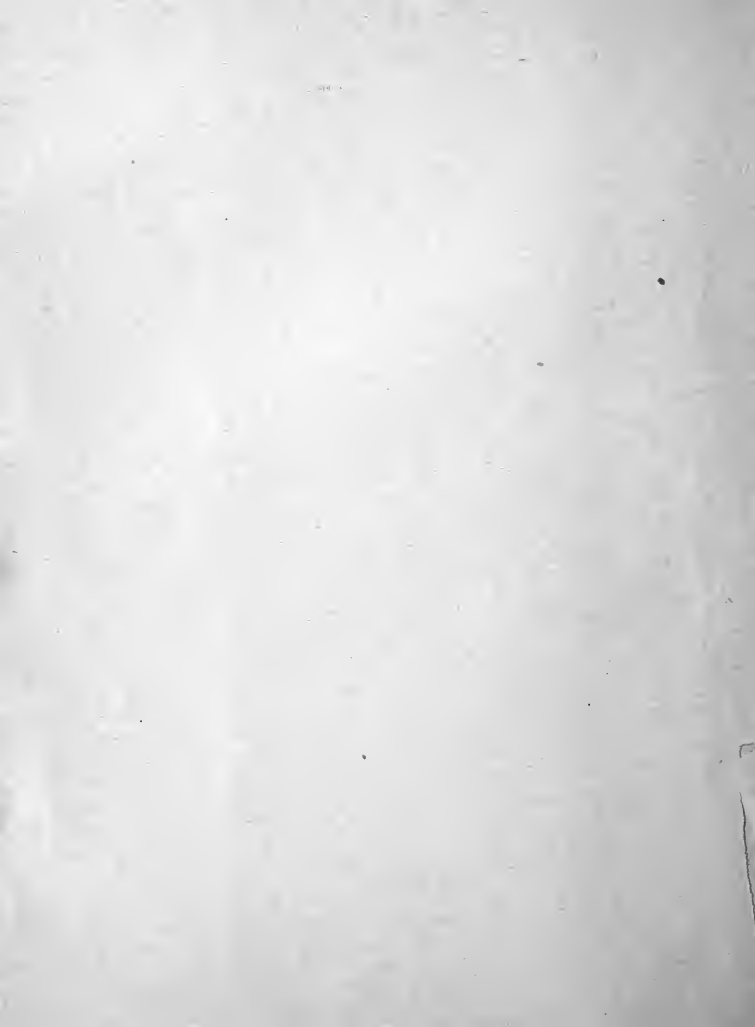
We also compare the old slave power of the South and the money power of today, and show that they both worked for the same end—*oligarchy*.

We endeavor, also, to give you the saving to the people by substituting greenbacks for national bank bills. We give, also, a dialogue on money from the pen of E. M. Burchard. Good, sound argument.

Also, we give the French financial system at the time of the Franco-Prussian war and ask that you compare it with the English and ours, and see if *ours* could not be bettered. John Doe and Richard Roe's financial problem solved worth your study. England's royal commission decides whether gold caused the decline in prices. A fact or a farce, which?

We next take up the land schemes of the capitalists and railroads, and show from *absolute proofs* the losses to the toilers by reason of the class legislation in favor of monopoly; show also

that the government *must* control the railroads or the railroads *will control* the government. We submit our plan for correcting the evils which hurt us now and preventing them in the future. Read the work carefully and let us see if we cannot avoid another such a panic by controlling the storm centre.





## The Plan Mapped Out.

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The following circular was issued by English capitalists in 1862, and circulated "confidentially" among American bankers. After you have read it carefully you need be at no loss to solve the mystery of the finance legislation which has followed, or in whose interest congress has been working all these years. This infamous and much-abused document is known as the "*Hazzard Circular*." It has been denied so often by the Bankers' Association, through their subsidized press, that we presume many people do not believe there ever was such a document. The following pages, however, will show the truth of this circular having been here, and that it became the chief stone of the corner of the Bankers Association. Here is the *infernal document* :

### THE HAZZARD CIRCULAR.

"Slavery is likely to be abolished by the war power and chattel slavery destroyed. This I and my European friends are in favor of, for slavery is but the owning of labor, and carries with it the care of the laborer, while the European plan, led on by England, is capital control of labor, by controlling wages. This can be done by controlling the money. The great debt that capitalists will see to it is made out of the war, must be used as a measure to control the volume of money. To accom-

plish this the bonds must be used as a banking basis. We are now waiting to get the Secretary to make this recommendation to Congress. It will not do to allow the "greenback" as it is called, to circulate as money any length of time, for we cannot control them, but we can control the bonds and through them the bank issues."

'Tis said this circular was not here. The following will answer that charge. Read it!

State of Indiana, }  
County of Posey, } ss.

James G. Nesbitt, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I am seventy-three years of age, and live in Posey County, Indiana, where I have resided for sixty-five years. In 1861, I and Sheridan Anderson, who is now dead, of the same County, enlisted in the service of the United States army, sixtieth regiment and Company C, of the Indiana Infantry. In July, 1862, our command joined the forces of General Dumont, of Lebanon, Ky. About the 25th of the same month Mr. Anderson and myself were detailed as guards and placed on police duty on Main street. In passing near the General's headquarters we were hailed and ordered to "shadow" a party of three persons—one woman and two men—who were then passing on the opposite side of the street, find out their business and report. We learned that one man and the woman were Kentuckians and the other man was an Englishman. We had considerable conversation with the Englishman, who gave his name as Charles Hazzard. He said he had recently come from England to confer with the business men of this country on a financial scheme. We told him that he was lucky in striking a very large body of very busy men, and as representatives of headquarters we desired tangible information of his business, that we might report it to the authorities. In response to this he took one of a small package of envelopes and gave it to Mr. Anderson,

saying, its contents would explain the business and allay any suspicion that might have arisen regarding him. This occurred in the postoffice, and we then reported the matter to General Dumont at headquarters, giving him the circular in the presence of several officers who happened to be present at the time. An exact copy of that document was kept by us and the one here given is a correct reading of the same.

JAMES G. NESBITT.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of  
May, 1894.

JOHN B. SMITH,

[SEAL]

Notary Public.

Based on this is the Association.



## CHAPTER I.

### **The Bankers' Association Analyzed.**

---

Centralized power is the never failing enemy of civil liberty. There now exists in the United States an association wider in its scope, stronger in its resources and more thoroughly hedged in its respectability than was ever before organized in human society. It is known as the National Bank Association. We will endeavor to analyze its power and make known its purposes. This one association is composed of 3,319 corporations and 1,500 private bankers, with their presidents and cashiers, their stockholders and henchmen scattered throughout the land. The corporations have a fixed capital—one billion of dollars—and control a subsidiary fund of three thousand millions of money, making with their deposits and the funds of the private bankers identified with it a central colossus of monied power wielding the influence of *four thousand millions* of concentrated capital, centralized under one supreme central head having the most boundless and uncontrolled monopoly that ever united to master the destinies of a free and independent people. Its object is two-fold:

First. To prolong the existence of the National Banks into an endless monopoly of banking privileges.

Second. To control the money and the currency of the nation by *defeating all legislation tending to lessen the power or diminish the monopoly of the National Banks.*

To understand its purposes it is necessary to understand the history of its growth, the extent of its profits and the power it can exercise for good or evil. When the old slave power had rebelled because they could not control the young giant of freedom, and our government was battling with the South; when our very existence was trembling on the verge of exhausted coin; when banking resources gave out; when public confidence had weakened into suspicion, and when cruel and desolating war was demanding millions daily to sustain our brave boys in the field, there seemed but one resource left; it was an appeal to the capitalists of the nation for financial aid. Capital, always selfish, knew the situation and comprehended its power. While the patriotic sons of patriotic fathers and loving mothers were rushing to the front to protect the old flag, where was capital? Hid behind the selfishness of human greed to dicker and bargain for usury as the price of yielding to our necessities. It was in this hour of national combat that the national banking system had its birth. The government was forced to become the fawning-borrower-slave to the lender, capital. Then it was that money dictated a system

of monopolies, privileges and profits such as no shyllock had ever before dreamed of. When it had fashioned its law, consummated its conditions and panoplied its usury into Congressional monopolies, lender like, it yet held back, creating suspicions, magnifying the power of gold and depreciating national credit until it forced coin to more than double its value. Then United States bonds having been fixed as the basis and gold as the standard of value, capital commenced to purchase bonds. The Bank Bill passed March 23, 1863. Now to get at just what the bankers paid for their bonds we must establish the price of gold at the periods when the bonds were sold by the government and purchased by the bankers. The price of gold from April 1, 1863, to January 1, 1864, varied from \$1.30 to \$1.60, averaging \$1.45.

During this time 66 banks were organized with a capital stock of \$7,188,393, making a profit to the Bankers of. ....\$2,322,388 00

From Jan. 1, '64, to Jan. 1, '65, 508 Banks were organized with a capital of \$86,782,802. The average price of gold was \$2 10, making a profit to the Bankers of. ....47,729,542 90

From Jan. 1, '65, to Jan. 1, '66, 1,005 Banks organized; capital, \$306,374,404. Price of gold, \$1.64½, making a profit to the Bankers of. 107,484,228 60

From Jan. 1, 1866, to Jan. 1, 1867,  
 Banks organized, 131; capital, \$22,-  
 315,161. Price of gold, \$1.42, mak-  
 ing a profit of..... 6,694,548 90

From Jan. 1, '67, to Jan. 1, '70, the  
 increase of capital was \$10,316,886.  
 Currency was worth 70 per cent.—  
 The Banks made a profit of.....\$3,995,068 80

---

Making a total profit of .....\$167,325,777 20

Showing the absolute profit made on the investment to have been more than four times the capital of the Bank of the United States, when it controlled the Senate, Congress and the money of the Union ; and \$17,000,000 more than the entire capital of the Bank of England, which controls the finances of the British Empire. Not content with this enormous bounty, the United States were forced to obligate the people to exempt all of the bonds from taxation, and to pay interest in gold on the face of the bonds, namely, on—

U. S Bonds to secure circulation .....	\$392,563,300
U. S. Bonds to secure deposits .....	17,753,650
U. S. Bonds for reserve .....	24,517,059
Total .....	<hr/> \$434,834,009

This represents the bonds held by the Banks in 1871, and the amount does not materially vary. Assuming the interest to have been 6 per cent in



gold, and the average premium on gold from 1864 to 1874 to have been 50 per cent, the interest would equal 9 per cent in currency, or an annual sum of \$39,135,060 81, as a yearly bounty, which, taking the 14 years the Banks have been in operation (at the date this was computed) foots up the sum of \$547,890,851,34, which added to the profit on the bonds, \$167,325,777 20, makes an aggregate of *Profits* of \$715,216,628.54.

These figures, enormous as they are, are but the simple enumerators of the most gigantic swindle that was ever imposed upon a civilized people.— There is nothing in the history of the world to compare with it in enormity, and every dollar of it *has been stolen from the taxed and patient people*, to be given to the untaxed monopolists. But, thus far, I have only reached the corner stone of the temple of the bankers' privileges. The entire investment in the purchase of the \$410,316,950 of United States bonds for banking purposes was only \$197,508,239. This represents the sum in *money* invested by all the National Banks, at this time. They thus started with a 20 per cent investment. The next step in their monopoly was for the United States to issue to these Banks 90 per cent of the face value of their bonds in National Bank notes, representing the credit of the United States, amounting to the sum of \$350,000,000, to lend, for this currency was money, which the Bankers received from the Government to use for banking purposes. This shows what the bank-

ers got for their <i>investment</i> —	\$197,508,339
Receipts U. S. Bonds, \$434,834,009	
National Bank Currency, 350,000,000	
Making the sum on which they received interest,.....	\$784,834,009

The interest received has been as follows :

On U. S. Bonds,....	\$39,135,060 81
On Nat. Bk. Cur'ncy, 33,250,000 00	_____
Total,.....	\$72,385,069 81

This is not all. The Government not only lent the Banks its *credit*, so that they at once drew to their vaults deposits which have averaged six hundred millions, but they gave the Banks the chartered right to loan these deposits, so that the aggregate of their loans have averaged the sum of \$783,250,000, which at  $9\frac{1}{2}$  per cent per annum, that being the percentage the Comptroller of the Currency reports the Banks to have realized on their loans, makes the annual sum of their interest on their deposits \$38,992,500. Hence the National Bank interest account on an investment of \$197,508,239 stands as follows:

On U. S. Bonds .....	\$39,135,060 81
Nat. Bank Bills ..	33,250,000.00
“ Deposits	38,922,500.00

Total.....	\$111,377,560.81
------------	------------------

or more than 50 per cent annual profit. Nor does this give the full measure of the most infamous privileges these cormorants are enjoying. They were made agents of the Government to sell Bonds,

given the right to sell, exchange, and do all its discounts, the most favored Bank charter ever allowed ; and, beyond this, there is still another feature of their profits which should not be lost sight of, namely, the premium on *their* bonds, which at this time, at the lowest figures reported in the money markets, amounts to the additional sum of \$21,184,254, which, deducted from the actual investment, shows that the investment of capital is only the sum of \$176,323,885, on which their interest is \$111,377,560.81, or about 65 per cent. These yearly bounties paid to the Barons of the Purse, saying nothing of compound interest, in these years of Bank depredations, figure up to the sum of \$1,559,285,941.34.

Having shown you how the National Banks originated, the money they have actually realized as profits on the money they actually invested, and that they now hold the United States bonds valued at \$456,018,263 for the original investment of \$197,508,239, I will proceed to show the objects and purposes of the huge combination which is now organized as the *National Bank Association*.

The number of incorporated National Banks was, in October, 1876, 2,089, (there are now 3,319). The amount of their capital stock, surplus funds, undivided profits, circulation, deposits, and other items, swelled their resources to the enormous sum of \$4,823,469,723.44—the largest combination of capital ever embraced in any oligarchy known to the world. These 2,319 corporations, in the full pano-

ply of soulless power, combined into a single leviathan monopoly to override all restraint ; to compass all control ; to rule Congress ; to dictate to the Nation its laws, to the people their rights, and to the United States their money and finances. Born amid the storm of civil war, out of the smoke of battle, cradled into immense wealth by monopolized subsidies, its object is to make the Government its servant, and the people its slaves. We have given you its object, now let us see how it is composed, and where it reaches.

The stock of the National Banks is represented by 5,054,828 shares of \$100 each, and about 1,500,000 shares at less than \$100 each. These shares are owned by 208,000 shareholders. Massachusetts holds 988,700 shares, the rest of the New England States 1,030,126 shares ; New York, 1,482,746 ; the other Middle States, 1,568,623 shares ; the Southern States, 429,323 shares, or less than half that held by Massachusetts, and the Western States 937,333, or less than one New England state ; the Pacific States and Territories, 69 shares. The number of shareholders in the Eastern States are 86,975, of whom 46,564 reside in Massachusetts ; in the Middle States there are 68,126, of whom 26,339 reside in New York, 28,612 in Pennsylvania ; in the Southern States there are 11,004 ; in the Western States, 17,170 ; in the Pacific States and Territories there are 721 ; Canadians hold 6,519 ; Great Britain, 6,728, and in other portions of Europe, Asia and the Islands 23,000. Thus it seems that more than four-

fifths of the moneyed power is held in the Atlantic States. They have combined and control it. It is a power which, to use the words of Thomas H. Benton, when speaking of the old United States Bank, which had a capital of only \$35,000,000, or less than the people are now forced to pay annually as a bounty to the National Banks, "Is too great to be tolerated in a government of free and equal laws." It is a power massed and concentrated by a central conclave in New York, to make the rich richer and the poor poorer, to multiply nabobs and paupers, and to deepen and widen the gulf which separates Dives from Lazarus. It has been combined by Capital to make Capital master. Its leaders have made two public declarations--First, "*That the Association is dedicated to reducing all employes to the lowest measure of compensation.*"

Second, "*That its machinery is now in operation so that in any emergency the financial corporations of the East can act together at a single day's notice, and with such power that no act of Congress can overcome or resist their decision.*"

Its standard of wages is that which constitutes European pauperism. Its edict of power is that the American laborer must be contented with low wages; and its purpose is to open an unsparing war against all interests which resist it. From its policy in the past, its policy in the future is easily deducted. At the birth of the Greenback the originators of the Bank Association started their nefarious work. It was necessary to their purpose that they discredit it,

and they were powerful enough to submit it to gold speculators by making the Government hang the chain of repudiation around its neck by printing on every bill its refusal to receive it for duties on imports, and the clause taking away its legal tender quality in payment of interest on the public debt. Unless this was done it would be equal to gold, and if equal to gold, the bonds could not be reduced to 42 cents on the dollar, as they were. Again, if equal to gold, as they were in value but for this repudiation, gold speculators could not speculate upon the misfortunes of the people by continually magnifying the price of gold and as continually decrying the price of greenbacks. The second step was to change the contract by which our bonds, made payable in lawful money, were made payable in coin. This they forced Congress to do. It was felony, but they were guilty of it. The third step was to demonetize silver by an infamous fraud. They did this because we had silver in abundance, knowing that gold was scarce, and we had but little of it. with our bonds payable in gold they knew they were masters of the people. The fourth step was to fix a time when specie payment should be resumed as a forced law, and when at the will of the money power no debt could be paid except in gold. These were the initiatory and preparatory measures to organize and consummate the aristocratic and oligarchic power of the National Bank monopoly. It was essential to make them masters of the finances of the Nation and of the people. *First*, To discredit the Green-

back in order to dissatisfy the people with it by making it inferior to gold. The foundation was laid in two ways—by direct action first, by stamping its inferiority on the back of every bill, as a positive repudiation of its power to pay duties or interest on the public debt, and thus create a constant demand for gold, so as to keep the commercial world advertised of its inferiority and of its inability to perform the highest functions of money. *Second*, By making a superior through which it should be compelled to redeem itself, thus constituting gold as the sovereign and superior, and the greenback as the inferior subject—keeping this inferiority as the weapon with which the gold speculator could daily assail the uncertainty in value of the greenback and hourly agitate public credit for its redemption. These were the direct means by which the money power forced the Government to recognize and proclaim the fluctuating and uncertain value of our money.

The indirect attack which this great means supported was the Wall street cry of "Rag Baby," "Paper Balloons," "Inflation," which hard money knaves hourly resorted to, invoking the terrible losses which peoples and nations had been forced to submit to in depreciated paper money, citing to sustain their diabolical purpose the worthless millions of French assignats, Continental currency and Southern Confederacy bills, as if they were omnipotent to defeat our national resources, our honor as a people and our credit as a government.

To make this constant outcry a matter of constant

alarm they undertook to intensify the danger under the specious but false and infamous declaration that American credit was in danger and that this danger could only be met and resisted by declaring that our bonds which had been paid for in greenbacks or lawful money *should be paid in coin*; and in this Congressional declaration secure another legislative repudiation of the greenback and a further national recognition of its inferiority. Having secured these fortifications to establish that gold was the sovereign and the government its subject, they yet saw that they would not possess the full power that they coveted so long as silver, which we produced in greater abundance than any other nation, could be used as a means of paying debts and a measure of value. Therefore, to take from the people their last and most potent means of sustaining credit and regulating exchanges, they perpetrated the contemptible and overwhelming outrage of demonetizing silver. This done the whole credit, property, prosperity and power of the nation was in the hands of the men who could control the gold provided they could take one step and induce Congress to pass a law for the forced resumption of specie payment. This they succeeded in doing so that on the first day of January, 1879, there should be no recognized money but gold. The greenback repudiated, silver demonetized, gold made king and the bankers controlling the gold, the government would be at their mercy, property subject to their value, credit to their dictation and the people their slaves. These foundations



for autocratic control having thus been secured to concentrate and wield the power so obtained, the next step was to organize the Bankers' Association and they have organized it; organized it for the purpose of perpetuating an infamous monopoly; a monopoly to tax the mass of the people for the support of a bond-holding aristocracy of bankers exempt from taxation; a monopoly to take from circulation the sovereign money from the sovereign people; a monopoly to dictate the currency, control the finances and issue the money of the nation. It has organized, knowing it can control the gold, and also knowing that it has to root out, discredit and kill the greenback, or the greenback will root out, discredit and overthrow the National Banks and their monster offspring, this national devil fish, this thieving, lying banditti, fashioned into a leviathan money vampire. The eggs out of which it was hatched were warmed into animated life by the contraction of money to make ready to sacrifice the nation to the monster forced specie payment. It has already laid waste every enterprise. Three millions of laborers, without labor and without bread, are now waiting to know whether by its continuance they are to be without hope. Like a devil fish, it has crushed, and killed, and blighted all it has touched. It is now organized as a vampire to suck out the blood, and life, and liberty of the people. The issue is unmistakable. Either the Bank Association has got to give up its sovereignty of money and yield to the sovereignty of government issue in quantities ade-

quate to the demands of trade and commerce, or the government of the United States has got to give up its sovereignty and become the subject, borrower-slave, to the Bank Association. There is no room for equivocation ; there is no dodging the issue or the battle which is to decide the issue. It is the Bank Association and slavery, or the Government issue and liberty. Which side, then, will you take? This vampire as I have already shown has sucked from the life blood of the Nation \$1,559,285,941.34 as profits on an investment of \$197,508,239, besides holding \$456,918,203 as capital, on which it draws by yearly and impertiable interest as a tax upon the people for the banking army of aristocratic monopolists, the princely sum of \$111,377,560.81, or nearly as much for yearly profit as the entire capital of the Bank of England. This robbery *must cease*, or *liberty will cease*.

The Bank Association, with all its monopolies and privileges must end, or the voting people are cowards and slaves. It must be put down legally but it must be put down. Unless the American laborer is willing to submit to become the brutalized pauper, such as monopolized money has made the European laborer, he will assert his power at the ballot box. If the Banking Association must say to the laborer its mission is to reduce all labor to the lowest measure of compensation, as it has said, then the laborer may say to the Bank Association that it will unite all the forces of labor, all the power of industry, all humanized and active life to annihilate it, as a mon-

ster, to crush it as an usurper, to kill it as a power. So, too, when the Bank Association declares to the American people that it is so organized that, on a day's notice, it can marshal forces that no act of Congress can overcome, and that its omnipotent power is such that its decision cannot be resisted—then, again, the American people *can*, and *will*, and *do declare*, as they have once before declared, that “*The abuses and usurpations, pursuing the same object, evince a design to reduce them under an absolute despotism*” That it has meanly and fraudulently combined to depreciate National money; that it has feloniously changed the letter and spirit of our laws to increase our burdens; that it has wickedly and unjustly demonetized silver that it might the more easily oppress the people; that it has attempted to enforce the payment of all obligations in gold to enable it to rob the people of their substance and the Government of its credit; that it has attempted to reduce labor to slavery, and comfort to beggary, to establish the aristocracy of wealth, to rule over a subjugated people; and, finally, that it has so combined into arrogant and insolent power as to have challenged the power of Congress, and to have defied the will of the people; and that for the support of this declaration with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor, to vote down, and forever put down, this monster monopoly, the National Bank Association.

Once again the American people are called upon not only to declare but to assert their rights. Ours is a Government born of patriotism, devoted to just equalities, founded in liberty, and the sovereign arbiter of its own rights. The mission of our Government is to secure equality, protect labor, and elevate the people. The mission of the Bank Association is to dominate as an aristocratic oligarchy. The sovereignty of the Government is incompatible with the whole scope, aim, object, and centralized power of the Bank Association. It is the duty of the Government and the people to kill it. It is an overgrown vampire.

France, when her people revolted into revolutionary excesses to put down abuses, had no aristocracy so malevolent, no monopoly so huge, no tyranny so blighting, no pensions so exacting as those which today are sheltered in and protected by the Bank Association. The pensions of the Bourbon nobility, which eight hundred years had sanctioned under the divine right of kings, were not one-half in amount the people are forced to pay to the National Bank nobility. The enormity of the wrong, and the wicked infamy of longer imposing its monstrous exactions upon the people is now understood. The non-taxed nobility of France numbered but 150,000 ; the non-taxed Bondholding Barons of the Bank Association number 250,000. In France the nobility lived in idle debauchery while the people starved. One has but to read the account of Edward Young, or the Departmental Official Statements of the condition of

the laboring class, under this aristocratic rule, to see precisely what is meant by the representations of the Bank Association when they declare that the wages of employes are to be reduced to the lowest measure of compensation. It means screwing down prices of labor to a starvation dependence on capital. It means aristocratic ease for the few, and debasing poverty for the many. The personal property of the French nobility did not reach one billion of dollars. The personal property of the Bank and Bond nobility, here, is more than two billions of dollars, combined into a confederated oligarchy, to force submission to its dictates. The French nobility trampled upon every human right; they outraged every social virtue; they crushed whole races of men by taxes and covees and tallies into abject poverty and misery until they finally aroused the united wrath of a united people. Then the burning chateau glared on the horizon, and the blood of the blue-blooded aristocracy ran in streams, which swelled into torrents by civil war, to tell mankind that man would no more submit to the grinding tyranny of aristocratic privilege. The despotism of the Bank Association nobility is no better than that which governed the French nobility. The people of the United States have not been educated to submit to degradation, and they will not; they have been educated to resist oppression, and they will resist it.

In France the moss of ages covered the battlements of fortified power, and centuries of accumulated privileges gave prestige to privilege, but at

the first stroke of popular revenge the whole edifice fell. The cry "The Bastille has fallen" was a warning to the French nobility. It fell upon their ears as the telegraphic announcement "Silver is remonetized and rehabilitated" will fall upon the ears of the Bank Association. It was the prophecy of the real. The French nobility resisted. It controlled the army, the money, and all that power held sacred, with the prestige of eight hundred years to shield it from attack, and it was as defiant, as self-satisfied and as egotistical in its outrages as the Bank Association is today. The people numbered twenty-five millions, but they were down-trodden, poor, and in the main uneducated. Yet, light had penetrated their cottages; leaders had arisen, patriots had proclaimed truths. LIBERTY had sung its Marseillaise; the rights of man had been proclaimed. The Declaration of American Independence—man's new Gospel of Truths—had been read at every fire-side, and all at once in the might of their power the people shook the dust of the past from their garments, broke the chains which had so long bound them, and swept the nobility, with all its privileges and monopolies, its outrages, its taxes and its serfdom of labor from the land as a curse it would no longer endure.

If the French, oppressed by ignorance, kept in bondage by feudalism, subjugated by caste, and iron-bound by monopolies, could shake off their noble masters, the people of the United States—70,000,000—united, will not be frightened by the Bank

Association, even though its machinery is so organized "*that at a single day's notice it can combine such power that no act of Congress can overcome or resist its decisions.*" The people of the United States have been brought up in common schools, nursed to despise tyrants, reared in the gospel of declared rights, with telegraphic community of thought, in which equality of rights is religion, and their omnipotence a faith. There is no such thing as fear of any obstructionist; for whoever put themselves in the way of equalized rights will be removed—whenever demands exemption from taxation will be put down. Whoever attempts from this time forward to monopolize the circulation of money, or interfere with the absolute sovereignty of absolute money, as decreed by the people, will be hurled from their places of power. however strong may be their combination. The whole temple of National Bank monopolies, with its bounties, its untaxed bonds, its quadruple-bounded interest, and moneyed dictation must come down. Not a relict of its hideous proportions must be left, and its Presidents, its Secretaries, and if its 3,546 Bank President Nobles, with their political attendants, stand in the way, they will be voted out of the way, with peaceable docility if they do not resist; with forcible laws if they attempt to hold on. Such is the National Bankers' Association. It must yield its power to the people, or the people will be forced to yield their power to it. This leech on the life-blood of the Nation can go now, with all its spoils in peace. If it stay to

defy the people, to rob the people, to enslave the people, it is neither entitled to the benevolence of clemency nor the shield of protecting law, for it has combined to conquer, associated to subdue. Soulless, heartless, and grasping, money is its instrument, power its aim, and sovereign control its purpose. A great orator has declared that "the storms of Liberty are to be preferred to the serenity of Slavery," and our own immortal apostle of human rights, when denouncing tyrannies, which were but trifling oppressions when compared with the monstrous wrongs of the Banking Association, rising to the grandeur of martyrdom, declared, and his declaration has become the trumpet-call to revolution: "Give me liberty or give me death!" In this spirit it is our solemn duty to suppress every order of privileges, every kind of monopolies, and all aristocracy of bounties. But the first and paramount duty of the people is to finish, and forever, the overgrown and dangerous power of the NATIONAL BANKS.



# Table of Amounts Stolen and Interest Paid on Stealings Alone.

Year	%	Am't Sold.	Gold Price.	Net Profit.	Years Int. on Profit.	Amt of Int.	+ Net Profit.	Total Steal
1862	139	\$60,982,450	\$44,080,696	\$16,951,801	11	\$11,187,188	\$16,951,801	\$28,138,989
1863	158	160,987,550	101,890,854	59,096,696	10	35,458,417	59,096,696	94,555,713
1864	201	381,292,250	189,697,636	191,594,614	9	114,956,768	191,594,614	306,551,382
1865	164½	279,746,150	208,213,090	71,533,060	8	38,627,307	71,232,060	110,159,367
1866	142	124,914,400	88,591,773	36,323,627	7	17,434,556	36,323,627	53,757,183
1867	139	421,469,550	302,215,503	118,254,047	6	49,661,694	118,254,047	167,915,477
1868	136	424,442,800	312,826,323	112,616,477	5	40,542,288	112,617,477	153,159,765
1869)					three years.			
1870)	108½	On acct. of 5 per cent.	Bonds during					
1871)		195,139,550	122,957,410	72,182,140		26,115,724	72,182,140	98,297,864

Since which time we have no data to follow, but this will show, by reason of the "except" clause, a total of \$1,012,536,004.

## CHAPTER II.

This dangerous combination should be destroyed for the following reasons, if for no other: Its paper emissions are not money at all, but are only a promise to pay money; they are not a legal tender, hence are valueless except by courtesy, the same as any other endorsed note.

I here insert two sections of the National Bank act to show you the fraud being practiced.

Section 5226, Revised Statutes—Whenever any National Banking Association fails to redeem in the lawful money of the United States any of its circulating notes upon demand of payment duly made during the usual hours of business at the office of such association, or at its designated place of redemption, the holder may cause the same to be protested, in one package, by a notary public, unless the president or cashier of the association whose notes are presented for payment, or the president or cashier at the place at which they are redeemable offers to waive demand and notice of the protest, and, in pursuance of such offer, makes, signs and delivers to the party making such demand an admission in writing, stating the time of the demand, the amount of the demand and the fact of the non-pay-

ment thereof. The notary public, on making such protest, or upon receiving such admission, shall forthwith forward such admission or notice of protest to the Comptroller of the Currency, retaining a copy thereof. If, however, satisfactory proof is produced to the notary public that the payment of the notes demanded is restrained by order of any court of competent jurisdiction, he shall not protest the same. When the holder of any notes causes more than one note or package to be protested on the same day, he shall not receive pay for more than one protest.

Section 5182—Ibid—After any association receiving circulating notes under this title has caused its promise to pay such notes on demand to be signed by the President or Vice-President and cashier thereof, in such manner as to make them obligatory promissory notes, payable on demand at its place of business, such association may issue and circulate the same as money. And the same shall be received at par in all parts of the United States in payment of taxes, excises, public lands, and all other dues to the United States, except duties on imports; and also for all salaries and other debts and demands owing by the United States to individuals, corporations and associations within the United States except interest on the public debt and in redemption of the national currency.

These two sections clearly show first, that these notes are nothing more than an *endorsed promise to pay*, and further that *you* are the involuntary en-

dorser, and if the bank fails to redeem its note when you present it you have to protest the note on which *you* are endorser. And second, that these notes are *not legal tender* among the people.

*A National Bank swindle* exposed on the floors of Congress July 21, 1868, by Hon. S. S. Marshall, of Illinois. He said:

A. B. & Co. raised in currency \$300,000. Went to the Register of the Treasury and exchanged their currency for 6 per cent gold interest bonds \$300,000; took the bonds to the Comptroller of the Currency in the same building, organized a National Bank, deposited their bonds and received for their bank \$270,000. They had let the Government have \$30,000 in currency more than they had received back for banking purposes and had \$30,000 drawing 6 per cent interest, or \$18,000 a year in gold on a loan of \$30,000 in currency.

But this is not all of this swindle. They had their bank made a public depository. They soon found there was never less than \$1,000,000 of Government money in their vaults. They wanted interest and hence they took this money and bought \$1,000,000 more of Government sixes, getting \$60,000 more of interest, making in all \$78,000 gold interest on an actual investment of only \$30,000. Nor did they stop here. They deposited the \$1,000,000 bonds and started two more banks of \$500,000 each and received in bank bills \$900,000 more. Now let us see how this looks on an investment of \$300,000 in

currency. They draw \$78,000 interest in gold per annum and have in bank bills \$1,170,000 to do business with. Labor pays the taxes, labor pays the interest and labor goes in rags at the dictation of the octopus and still shuts its eyes and says *my old party won't do it again*. But they will, for that is what this association was created for.

This private circular was issued to the National Bankers' Association in 1876:

#### A PRIVATE CIRCULAR.

Dear Sir,—When the greenbacks are cancelled, then there will have to be not less than four hundred million dollars more national bank bills. This will necessitate from three to four thousand more national banks than are already chartered (there are now twenty-one hundred]. When we get five to six thousand banks with not less than 10 persons to each, on an average, it will give us an organization spread over the country that *can control the government*.

See! We have 3,546 National Banks and 1,50 State Banks working with them, which makes 5,046 in all, and you see the result, they do control the government and are moving heaven and earth to cancel the "People's Money," the Greenbacks.

The following circular was afterwards issued by New York bankers, to the National Banks, in 1878:

#### THE BANKS' CIRCULAR.

Dear Sir,—It is advisable to do all in your power to sustain such prominent daily and weekly newspapers, especially the agricultural and religious press, as will

oppose the issue of greenback paper money. Let the government issue the coin and the banks issue the paper money of the country, for then we can better protect each other. To repeal the law creating national bank notes, or to restore to circulation the government issue of money will be to provide the people with money, and will therefore seriously affect your individual profit as bankers and lenders. See your congressman at once, and engage him to support our interests, that we may control legislation.

JAS. BUELL, Sec'y.

But here is another which seems to think that the agricultural and religious press should teach the people that the banks are the only ones who are capable of issuing paper money (save the mark.) I have told you the National Bank bill is *not money* in any sense of the word. But the only reason why Secretary Buell should recommend the agricultural and religious press, that I can see, is that he thinks these people are easier duped than city dudes. That would be the natural inference to be drawn from this circular. Will our agricultural and religious friends make a note of the Association's "dirty fling" at them through its secretary and then govern themselves accordingly. But the next thing this Huge Fraud, this leech on our national prosperity wants, is the retirement of the Greenback (it has always been a thorn in their side), the single Gold standard, and National Bank bills, based on government bonds, on which they draw interest in gold, pay no taxes, and have ninety per cent of the value of their bonds in bills, kept in good repair for them, at your ex-

pense, to loan to you at any interest they may see fit to charge.

For the purpose of carrying out this plan the following circular is sent out, issued March 12, 1893, by the American Bankers' Association, to all National Banks :

#### THE PANIC BULLETIN.

Dear Sir—The interests of national bankers require immediate financial legislation by congress. Silver, silver certificates and treasury notes must be retired and national bank notes upon a gold basis made the only money. This will require the authorization of from five hundred million to one billion dollars of new bonds as a basis of circulation. You will at once retire one-third of your circulation and call in one half of your loans. Be careful to make a money stringency felt among your patrons, especially among influential business men. Advocate an extra session of congress for the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman law, and act with the other banks of your city in securing a large petition to congress for its unconditional repeal, per accompanying form. Use personal influence with congressmen, and particularly let your wishes be known to your senators. The future life of national banks as fixed and safe investments depends upon immediate action, as there is an increasing sentiment in favor of government legal tender notes and silver coinage.

Does not this complete the chain of evidence that the Hazzard circular was here in 1862? Is it not proven by these circulars and by the action of the Bank Association that a conspiracy has been formed to rob this nation of its republican form of government and build on its ruins a monarchy based on cash? Will you, dear sir, longer submit to this rob-

bery, or will you demand with us *full legal tender Greenbacks* to fill the place of Bank bills ; the restoration of the silver dollar to its time-honored place in our money system, and that *all money*, whether metal or paper, shall be *coined* by the Government, and every dollar a full legal tender for all debts, dues and demands of every name, nature and kind. Let the National Bankers' Association die, and the Government establish postal savings banks in their stead, so arranged that the people may have a safe, sound and flexible currency, in quantity adequate to the demands of trade.

But before we leave this branch of the subject we must give you one more statement. It is from Hon. James B Beck, Senator from Kentucky. He gives a succinct history of all the bonds that were sold each year, the prices that were paid and the interest that was given shows that by procuring greenbacks with gold (or shoddy contracts) they made on each year's purchase of principal which cost them nothing (by reason of the gold price of the greenbacks) from the year stated to 1869, as follows, viz.:

1862.....	\$28,138,989
1863.....	94,555,713
1864.....	306,551,582
1865.....	110,159,367
1866.....	53,757,183
1867.....	167,915,741
1868.....	253,159,765
On acct. of 5% Bonds.....	98,297,864
Total.....	<u>\$1,012,536,004</u>



This statement was carefully and truthfully prepared (so says Mr. Beck) and needs no comment. This will compare with the one we have inserted before—they agree.

How much longer do you intend to submit to this Bankers Association rule? *You* make the money by your labor, and *they* “financier” it out of you by the gold basis system.

And after all this robbery, fraud and “financiering” (this is only a polite word for stealing) by this enemy of freedom, they are now moving heaven and earth to destroy the \$346,681,016 in Greenbacks on which we pay no interest and which cannot be retired under the present law. (See Sec. 3582 Revised Statutes: “The authority given to the Secretary of the Treasury to make any reduction of the currency, by retiring and cancelling United States Notes is suspended”) for the sole purpose of an issue of Bonds to the amount of the Greenbacks, on which they can draw interest, and issue their Notes to the amount of 90% of the face of the Bonds and force you to become their endorser. The great question now for you to solve is *will you do it*, or will you demand of the Government that they kill this “Devil Fish” that has got its feelers on every industry in the land, and restore the *entire circulation* to the people, to whom it belongs.

We give you here a statement of the saving to the producers by the use of full legal tender paper money to be issued by the Government in place of

National Bank bills. This was written when there was the amount of Greenbacks stated, said to be in circulation :

“The 351,000,000 of Greenbacks, represent a debt of the United States which bears *no* interest, and at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent interest will save to the people \$15,795,000 per year; or, in thirty years, with the principal, we will save \$824,850,000, or about one half of our national debt, while on the \$318,000,000 of Bank bills which cost us  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent we lose per year \$17,490,000, or in thirty years \$842,700,000. Now suppose that all of our Greenbacks were Bank bills, and we have to pay \$824,850,000 now saved, with the \$842,700,000 we now pay on the Bank bills, don't you see we would be paying in thirty years the enormous amount of \$1,667,500,000 to the capitalists, or just the \$824,850,000 more than we now pay? Again the interest saved to the people by the use of the Greenbacks, amounting to \$824,850,000, added to the sum of \$842,700,000, which would be saved if we change the National Bank bills to Greenbacks, makes just the difference of \$1,667,500,000, earned by the people and paid to the Banks, or if we put all the Bank bills into Greenbacks the same amount will be earned by the people and kept by those who earned it.

“If we put the present volume of currency all into Greenbacks, we will save, enough in thirty years to just about pay the National debt. But if we put the Greenbacks into National Bank bills we will just about double the National debt in the same time. Which system of currency is best to adopt? It will be just the difference in cash between \$1,667,500,000, paid to the people, and the same amount paid by the people to the Banks. This would be a real difference of \$3,335,100,000 in 30 years.

“Now, workingmen, make Bank bills your currency and you will have to earn \$3,335,100,000 and give it to the Banks, or abolish Banks and make Greenbacks your

currency entirely and this amount will be left in the hands of the people who earned it."

We will close this chapter with—

No. 4.

THE AMERICAN BANKER'S ASSOCIATION,  
2 WALL ST. AND 90-94 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK, March 23, 1896.

[President, Eugene H. Pullen, vice-president National Bank of the Republic, New York; first vice-president, Robert J. Lowry, Lowry Banking Company, Atlanta, Ga.; chairman executive council, Joseph C. Hendrix, president National Union Bank, New York; treasurer, William H. Porter, vice-president Chase National Bank, New York; secretary, James R. Branch, 2 Wall street, New York.]

To the Bankers of the United States :

At the meeting of the Executive Council of the American Banker's Association, held in this city on March 11, 1896, the following declaration was made by unanimous vote ;

#### THE EXISTING STANDARD OF VALUE.

"The executive council of the American Bankers' Association declare unequivocally in favor of the maintenance of the existing gold standard of value and recommend to all bankers and to the customers of all banks the exercise of all their influence as citizens in their various States to select delegates to the political conventions of both the great parties who will declare unequivocally in favor of the maintenance of the existing gold standard of value."

Your influence is earnestly requested to give practical effect to this action.

EUGENE H. PULLEN, President.  
JAMES R. BRANCH, Secretary.  
JOSEPH C. HENDRIX,  
Chairman Executive Council.

## CHAPTER III.

### A Glance at English History.

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The landed aristocracy of England has been formed and her debt came into existence by the same means of contraction and expansion of money credit as has been and is now pushing its way to consummation in our own country. When England commenced her debt (with less than one-half of her present population) she had 150,000 land owners and 5,000,000 or one-third property holders. Today with a population of about 40,000,000 she has less than 30,000 land holders and less than 70,000 that are comparatively independent. She has over 6,000,000 paupers, 20,000,000 living in dependence and degradation, with 10,000,000 living on salaries precarious and changeable. There is only one land holder in over 1,200 of the population. There is only one independent fortune in 600 of the population. It has been the business of her government to make the poor minister to the folly, idleness and luxury of the rich. By funding her national debt she has funded her people into slaves. She has

built up the fortunes of the rich and consigned her millions to monstrous poverty, existing as a permanent curse to brood over the liberties of the land.

Our history of contraction and expansion of money, establishment of National Banks, the inauguration of an interest-bearing debt and the fallacy of specie payment is clearly showing that English history is fast repeating itself, and that we are as closely following its beaten track as difference in conditions will allow. English history of currency contraction and expansion leads us to see that the money power of our own country has learned its lesson from the moneyocracy of the so-called mother country. In 1797 the paper currency of England increased from \$45,000,000 to \$225,000,000, and we are told by one of its eminent men that it resulted in a flood of prosperity such has had never before descended upon a nation. While this ample currency referred to existed in England, in the eight years previous to resumption of specie payments in 1821 she paid off \$640,000,000 of the public debt, or \$80,000,000 per year. She paid in the 10 years immediately following resumption only \$24,000,000 a year. In the next 10 years she increased her debt more than \$30,000,000. And now everyone expects her debt of \$4,000,000,000 or more to be co-existent with the government itself.

The celebrated William Corbett boldly asserted that with the destruction of the ample currency above stated, England would, by a collapse of her well paid industries, and consequently her tax-pay-

ing power, be forced to stop payment on her debt, *and that prophecy became history*. The consummation of this English history in her downtrodden and suffering millions is but the preface to the efforts of the same power in this country. It can be obviated here as it might have been there. The continuance of her ample currency receivable for all dues, taxes and revenues and by consent of the government continued a legal tender for all debts, both public and private, it would have remained the same so long as the government maintained the confidence and allegiance of the people. But that would not answer the usurping tyranny of the money power—a power that would ruthlessly absorb the substance of the toiling millions, leaving them to the condition of suffering, starvation and ruin. Today we are attempting to repeat the same history, and if carried on to consummation will as certainly bring the industrial millions of our own country to the same condition.

The United States also made their most rapid strides in wealth during our rebellion, and about five years after on an abundance of paper currency; but the "Hazzard circular" was here from England in the hands of the Bankers' Association and we, too, contracted the currency with a view to an early resumption of specie payments with the following results: In 1850 there was of the property in the United States in the hands of the people,  $67\frac{1}{2}$  per cent; in 1860,  $43\frac{1}{4}$  per cent; in 1870,  $36\frac{2}{3}$  per cent; in 1880,  $27\frac{1}{4}$  per cent; while in 1890 we find that 18,000 men own more than four-fifths of the assessed valuation

of the United States, leaving less than 20 per cent in the hands of the people. When the Roman empire went down 1,800 men owned all of the then known world. When Egypt went down only 2 per cent of her property was in the hands of the people. When the Persian empire went down only 1 per cent of her property was in the hands of the people; the rest had been transferred to the worshippers of the golden calf by the "financiering" process. The people, voters of this country, have in their hands the power to change such relations into the normal, rightful channels that lead to the general prosperity of the people and the well being and prosperity of the country.

Now having reviewed the Bankers' Association and set forth its purposes, let us see some of the results which they have accomplished. They have reduced the circulation from \$50.00 per capita in 1865 to \$11.88 per capita in 1879; they increased the number of failures from 530 in 1865, with a loss of \$8,579,000 to 10,478 in 1878, with losses to the amount of \$234,383,132—making, in all, failures to the number of 72,943 reported up to 1879, with losses to the amount of \$18,292,915,605, while in 1893 there were 16,650 failures, losses \$1,754,596,000. They filled the country with tramps, the poor-houses with paupers, the insane asylums with maniacs; our streets and highways with thieves, robbers, pickpockets and murderers; and our whole once-prosperous and happy land with misery, destitution and woe, to satisfy the avarice and greed of

about 8,000 beings calling themselves men, but who are in fact only cowardly, cringing sharks, despised of God and hated by men—a class who only deserve to die and be dragged into the desert to be devoured by wild beasts or vultures, and their offspring should be wiped off from the face of the earth. Let there be no more trace found of them or of their progeny.



## CHAPTER IV.

The Gold-bug press tells us that all who want free coinage of silver are the silver mine owners. Let us see. The silver mines produced 406,210,000 fine ounces of silver from 1878 to 1888, inclusive, according to report of director of the mint from the whole United States :

Commercial value was .....	\$436,260,000
Coinage value .....	525,145,000
Difference between commercial and coinage value was .....	88,885,000
Or an average (each year) of .....	8,080,544

Assuming that amount to have been the annual difference from the year 1878, we must add the sum of \$40,402,220 for the five years prior to 1878, making a total of \$129,287.220, for the whole United States for the 17 years ending 1889. Here is the selfishness of the silver mine owners.

Let us now take a look at the non-mining states. The yield of cotton for the year 1889 was 7,000,000 bales, or 3,500,000,000 pounds. Had silver remained as it was before 1873, cotton would have brought as good a price in 1889 as it did in 1873, or 16.4 cents per pound. Accounts would stand 3,-

$500,000,000 \times 16.4 = \$574,000,000$ . Now it stands:  $3,500,000,000 \times .099 = \$345,500,000$ , which shows a loss in one year to the cotton planters of \$227,500,000 in debt and tax-paying power, or the snug little sum of \$90,000,000 more in one year, than the entire loss to the silver mine owners in the whole 17 years. Is there not some reason for the cotton planters to be a little selfish ?

On wheat the loss to the producers by reason of the contraction of the currency caused by demonetization of silver amounts to \$100,000,000 per year, or \$1,700,000,000 in the 17 years. Should not the farmers be a little selfish ? Here is shown a total loss to the farmers and cotton planters of more than \$3,000,000,000, as against the paltry pittance compared with it, of \$8,000,000 per year suffered by the silver mine owners.

Next comes a loss that is irreparable. The loss of potential wealth through involuntary idleness of the *Great Army of Wealth Producers*. The Bureau of Labor of the State of Massachusetts for 1887 shows 816,740 laborers in the State. Of these 241,589, or 30 per cent, were idle part of the time each year from one to six months, the average being four months each. Now, 240,000 idle for one third of the time equals 80,000 idle all the time, or one-tenth of the laboring people. Labor is better organized, better classified, and more effectually ordered in Massachusetts than elsewhere. No other State will exhibit a smaller proportion.

One-third of the population are people who work for wages. Hence, out of our population of 67,000,000 people we have 22,500,000 laboring people. Truly one-fourth of this will constitute a vast army of the unemployed. Ten per cent idle 2,250,000, at an average wage of 1873, which was \$2.00 per day, entails on the wage earners of this nation the sum of \$4,500,000 per day lost ; the sum of \$27,000,000 per week ; the sum of \$117,000,000 per month ; or the sum of \$1,404,000,000 per year. A saving of this sum for one year and three months would wipe out our *entire* National debt. The same amount of loss to labor each year for 17 years reaches the *enormous sum* of \$23,868,000,000, which far outstrips all other losses put together, and is borne alone by the Great Army of the Unemployed. The nation loses the increase in National Wealth of what they would produce. Nor is this all, for the laborers who *are* employed receive but little more than one-half for their services what they did in 1873. Are not you, the Workingmen, more interested in the free coinage of silver, the destruction of National bank bills, and a government issue of FULL LEGAL TENDER MONEY, in quantities adequate to the demands of trade and commerce, than any one else? also the establishment of Postal Savings Banks owned and run by the government, for, and in the interest of the people? Is it not about time that laboring people grew a little selfish in their own interest? Verily, yes it is.

Here are a few reasons why you should be interested. You cannot expect to have anything of your

own under such a system of finance as is demanded by the "Gold Bugs" in the old parties. But why not, say you. Let me tell you why. The total debts of the nations of the world is \$28,621,910,685. The State debts of the United States is \$868,676,738. The municipal debt of the United States \$1,006,584,146. The municipal debt of Europe is estimated at \$40,000,000,000. The personal debts are estimated at \$2,500,000,000 for the people, which makes a total of \$73,321,651,394, which, on the single standard, are all payable in gold. Where is the gold coming from? The total output of gold in the world for the last 500 years has been only \$7,240,000,000. One-half of this has been used up in the arts, leaving \$3,620,000,000 in money, of which one-fourth is gone by loss and abrasion, leaving only \$2,715,000,000 to pay the debt with. How are you going to pay the debt with gold? The total output of silver for the last 500 years has been \$7,425,000,000. One-half used in the arts leaves \$3,712,500,000 for money. One-fourth lost or worn out \$928,125,000, leaves only \$2,784,375,000 to pay debts with, or of both gold and silver we have only \$5,499,875,000, or about five and one-half billions.

Now, tell me how you can pay 73 billion dollars in gold when you only have  $2\frac{1}{2}$  billions to pay it with. Let me tell you what you can do. You can pay the creditor  $1\frac{1}{2}$  billion dollars in interest each year if that will do you any good. And you can pay \$1,000,000,000 on the principal and have not one cent left, and you will still owe \$72,000,000,000.

Now, how will you pay that? Please study it over and let us know. We would like to learn how to pay 73, with interest at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , with  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . Cannot see how it can be done.

## CHAPTER V.

We now proceed to show you that the old slave power in the South was only intent on building up in this country an aristocracy based on involuntary servitude. As early as June, 1854, a large meeting was held in Leavenworth to give "expression," as it was heralded, and here is the "expression":

"*Resolved*, That we shall give no protection to abolitionists in Kansas Territory.

"*Resolved*, That in Kansas abolitionists need not set their feet. It is decreed by the people, who live adjacent, that their institutions are to be established there.

"They, abolitionists, must be met if need be, with the rifle. We must meet them at the very threshold and scourge them back to their caverns of darkness. They have made the issue, and it is for us to meet and repel them even at the point of the bayonet."—G. W. p. 459.

More than this, the old slave power, then, through its representative men, its leaders, struck at the ballot box in the hands of laboring men, as does the money power, now through its representative men, its leaders, strike at the ballot box in the hands of laboring men.

Here is what the slave power said: "If any of the 20,000 abolitionists, spoken of by Holly, should

be so lucky as to set foot in the Territory (Kansas) previous to the adoption of its Constitution, no ballot box at any precinct within its borders would be allowed to be polluted by the introduction of a nigger vote."—G. W. p. 460.

This was a proclamation by the slave power against the "nigger"—the black laborer. The old slave power hurled its anathema against the black labor. The money power puts forth its excathedra against labor, without regard to color or previous condition of servitude.

We have not the space or time to further trace the infamy of the slave power, but we wish it to be borne in mind that slavery was a crime against labor. It was capital owning labor, and through its corrupt political power it reached the highest place of absolute dictator. Less than three hundred thousand slave holders, less than two per cent of the people, came at last to own the President, to own the Senate, to own Congress, and to so control the Judiciary as to wring from it a decision that said a negro had no rights that a white man is bound to respect. And even went further, bought up the head-centers of the church, and extorted from them the infamous saying that slavery was a divine institution.

The old Whig party died and the Republican party was formed under the Oaks at Jackson, Michigan.

The great struggle of 1856 gave the country into the hands of the slave power, and she straightway said, I am a queen and shall see no sorrow. She gathered around her all the insignia of royalty and all the hauteur of tyranny. The groan of the slave only made her laugh. The plea of virtue in the bondwoman only fanned her lust.

And liberty went down, down, down, till the goddess wept for freedom lost. The slave oligarchy, in a cry that startled the world—like the last leap of mad ambition, o'erdid itself—said, capital shall own labor.

The eventful year 1858 came. The two mighty champions, one of labor, Mr. Lincoln; the other, Mr. Douglass, the apologist of slavery, made a canvass the like of which was not before known in our history. The great hearted man, Mr. Lincoln, said the House must cease to be divided, or it would fail. Mr. Douglass excused the division. Out of this discussion slavery came more haughty than ever, and fully bent on rule or ruin. And with a defiance hurled at humanity and a taunt at God, said, in the pride of her heart:

“I will call my slave-roll under the shadow of Bunker Hill.”—Tombs.

Then one mighty cry, like the voice of many waters, rang out labor shall be free. The struggle of 1860 came and gave the Government in the hands of freedom. The slave power rebelled. It said the Declaration of Independence was a lie; that our



fathers were mistaken when they declared it. There was no measuring the haughtiness, the impudence and the criminality of this tyrant of labor.

The slave power inaugurated war, published a great State paper in which they declared that a white man's republic could only be founded on the perpetual enslavement of the black man.

It baptized the land in blood, watered the hearth-stones with tears, outraged humanity, defied God and was crushed to death amid the boom of the cannon and the wails of the dying.

Take the money power of to-day and you find it the twin in the iniquity wrought out by its wicked prototype—the slave power. It, too, owns the President, owns the Senate, owns the Congress, claims the judiciary, controls the press, and has bought up the head-centers of the church, who are declaring that capital shall have the right to decree bread and water as the diet of labor.

And hear the meek and lowly Henry Ward Beecher, from his carmine-satin-covered-sofa, languishly exclaim :

“Is not a dollar a day enough to buy bread? Water costs nothing ; and a man who cannot live on bread is not fit to live. A family may live, laugh, love and be happy that eats bread in the morning with good water, and water and good bread at noon, and water and bread at night.”

Again: "If these men persist, and attempt to force their greenback money upon capitalists by the ballot, then we will take the ballot from them, if we have to use the bayonet to do it!"—Rev. Cook in Boston.

The President elect used language about as infamous, in regard to the greenback, utterly denying that it was money. He bowed and kissed the toe of the money power, and bid for its support with a devotion that no other man has been able to equal.

"I want it remembered in the outset, that the greenback currency was and is so known in the courts, and so known everywhere, a forced loan, a loan forced by the government upon its creditors to meet the great emergencies of the war."—J. A. Garfield's speech in Congress, 1878.

Thus he bid for the presidency and got it. He denied the law of his country and the decisions of the court of last resort.

"United States notes shall be lawful money and legal tender for all debts except the interest on the public debt and duties on imports."—R. S. U. S., Sec. 3, 588.

"This Court has recently held that all Legal Tender Acts are constitutional. So by that decision we have two kinds of money in this country, United States Notes and Coin."—12 W. S. C. R.

#### BEFORE IT COMMENCED.

1878—Up to 20 years ago the great mass of the American people was composed of small property

owners—men who owned farms, gardens, work shops, shops, stores, etc., of their own, who were their own masters, working for themselves.—Post and Tribune.

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AFTER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF POWER.

1878—We now have a large population of permanent workingmen—that is, a large class who expect to remain workingmen and non-property owners all their lives—a class which looks to working for wages as a permanent occupation for itself and children.—Post and Tribune.

In the New York Times April, 1877, appeared the following infamous doctrine :

(Is this Republicanism?)      \*      \*      \*      \*

"There seems to be BUT ONE REMEDY. To reach it, both farmers and capitalists need to be educated to it, but it seems to be INEVITABLE. It is a change of ownership of the soil, and the creation of a class of LAND-OWNERS on the one hand, and of TENANT FARMERS on the other, something similar, in both cases, to what has long existed and now exists in the older countries of Europe." (Ireland, for instance.) "Everything seems ripe for a change. Half the farms in the country are ready to be sold, if buyers would only appear; and hundreds that can now be bought for less than their value twenty or thirty years ago need only some judicious outlay to make them as productive as ever. Few farmers can hope to provide their sons with farms of their own, and there is no place for these young men in the overcrowded

cities." (Put 'em in jails or make coolies out of 'em.)

Hear that cold-blooded threat, ye tillers of the soil! And ye strong-armed mechanics, hear this, coming from that DEMOCRATIC! Rothschild organ, the New York World :

"The American laborer must make up his mind henceforth not to be so much better off than the European laborer. Men must be content to work for less wages. In this way the workingman will be nearer to that station in life to which it has pleased God to call him." (Let's see ; was not negro slavery DIVINELY instituted?)

It would seem as though we had shown you enough now of the workings of this cursed conspiracy to convince any sane man, or woman, that the sole aim and object is to reduce this boasted "land of the free and home of the brave" to a condition of servitude. Their paid writers and the subsidized press of the country are all loud in their proclamations against silver, and they all cry out with one accord that the government has no power to make (coin) paper money. But they claim it has perfect authority to charter National Banks to do so. Please tell us how the Government can delegate a power to another, an authority it does not possess itself.

Hear what the immortal Daniel Webster says on the subject. He says in the annals of the 25th Congress, second session, page 317. Now, sir, by this constitution, Congress is authorized to coin money,

to regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and all the States are prohibited from coining money or from making anything but gold and silver coin a legal tender in payment of debts. Suppose the constitution had stopped here, it would still have established the all important point of a uniform money system ; by this provision Congress is to furnish coin, or regulate its value for all the States ; there is to be but ONE money standard for the whole country, and the standard value to be established by Congress is to be currency, not of bullion merely ; and if nothing else had been done would it not have been a reasonable and necessary inference from this power that Congress had authority to regulate, and must regulate, any and all paper money that may be put in circulation. It is evident that the Constitution intended something more than to provide a medium for the payment of debts due the Government ; the object was a uniform currency for the whole people in all the transactions of life, and it was manifestly the intent of the constitution that the power to maintain such a currency should be given to Congress, but it would make the system incongruous and incomplete ; it would be denying to Congress the means necessary to accomplish ends which were manifestly intended ; it would render the whole provision in a great measure nugatory, if when Congress had established a coin for currency, and circulation it should have no power to maintain it as an actual circulation, nor to regulate or control paper emissions designed to occupy its

place and perform the same functions that it would on the coinage power alone, and on a fair, just and reasonable inference from it; therefore I should be of the opinion that Congress was authorized and was bound to protect the community against all evils which might threaten from a deluge of currency of another kind, filling up in point of fact all the channels of circulation, and this opinion is not new; it has often been expressed before, and was cogently urged by Mr. Dallas, the Secretary of the Treasury, in his report in 1816. He says whenever the emergency occurs that demands a change of system, it seems necessary to follow that the authority, which was alone competent to establish the national coin, is alone competent to create a national substitute.

This we think is pretty good authority, but for fear some may think it insufficient, we will cite one or two more, viz., *Parker vs. Davis*, 12 Wallace, 529. *Met. Bank vs. Van Dyke*, 27th N. Y. Rep 400 It is claimed by bullionist papers that Congress cannot issue legal tender notes in time of peace. The courts have decided this matter most emphatically. The Supreme Court of the United States—seven judges being present—in December, 1869, (a time of peace) in the case of *Hepburn vs. Griswold* (8 Wallace, page 636), held that Congress had the “undoubted constitutional power to furnish to the country the currency to be used by it in the transaction of business, whether this was by means of coin, or of the notes of the United States.”

This point being decided, the question then came up whether or not these "notes of the United States" could be declared a legal tender, thus making them as good as gold. Upon this question, this court of seven judges decided that Congress could make them legal tender for all contracts made after the passage of the act, but not for contracts made before.

Afterwards, when the bench was made full—nine judges—the Supreme Court decided that the legal tender U. S. Notes (greenbacks) could not only pay all debts created after the passage of the law, but all debts created before its passage (12 Wallace, page 553.)

It is seen, then, that—

1st, Congress can make the currency of the country by issuing U. S. Notes.

2d, Congress can declare such notes to be legal tender, the same as gold, thus making them just as good as gold for money. The Constitution having been formed for a time of peace, has the same authority during peace as in war. There are not two constitutions—one for peace and another for war.

Query—If the fiat of the government can take a man from his home and family, and put him in the front of the battle to be shot down, can it not determine what shall be a standard of value of the flour and meat he eats. If not, why not?

## CHAPTER VI.

### A Dialogue.

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Perhaps no way of imparting information excels that put in the form of question and answer. The question states exactly what knowledge is sought, and the answer furnishes the information in the most direct manner.

The questions herein asked are those which naturally occur to an inquisitive mind, and the answers are designed to be accurate, but it is not contended that they are complete in every case. The same question may often be answered in many different ways, and it would require all the answers to form a perfect reply. The object of the writer is to bring out the simplest and most important truth. Those who do not like the answers given may, perhaps, profitably exercise their wits in framing better ones:

Question. What is the chief aim of man?

Answer. To get money.

Q. Why does he wish to get money?

A. Because with money he can get all other things?

Q. Is money of itself useful to man?

A. He cannot eat, drink or wear it, or use it for shelter. Unless he can get rid of it in the act of buying something, it is the most useless thing in the world.

Q. What is money?



A. It is the stuff that we use in buying and selling.

Q. Is money a part of our wealth?

A. Only to a very limited extent. Money is the tool with which we exchange wealth. It is wealth only to the extent of the cost of its production from the cheapest available material.

Q. What is wealth?

A. Any product of human toil that can be used to satisfy human want.

Q. Has money any other use except that found in trade?

A. None worth mentioning.

Q. Can trading be done without money?

A. No. It is practically impossible.

Q. What becomes of trade when money is scarce?

A. It is crippled in proportion to the scarcity of money.

Q. What results from the embarrassment of trade?

A. The stoppage of production, which means loss of work and wages for laboring people, as well as loss of profit to traders. In short, it is universal loss.

Q. What is trade?

A. Trade is the exchange of products by means of money, each party getting rid of what he does not want and getting what he does want, and using money merely to accomplish that end.

Q. Whence comes money?

A. It is made by the government.

Q. Can any one else make it?

A. It is a high crime in any person to make money,

Q. Of what is money made?

A. Mainly of gold, silver and paper.

Q. Which is the best kind of money?

A. The use of money is that of a tool, the best tool is the one that is best to work with; therefore the kind of money that effects exchanges most handily is the best kind.

Q. Is an expensive kind of money any better than a cheap kind?

A. It does not do the work of money any better.

Q. What else is wanted of it?

A. Nothing. The money use is a permanent and exclusive one.

Q. Is anything gained by the using of expensive material in money?

A. Nothing. It is poor economy to use an expensive tool where a cheap one will answer the purpose.

P. If a nation uses a million dollars' worth of metal money when paper money would do the same work, what is lost?

A. Supposing the paper money to cost \$1000, the amount lost every year is equal to the interest on \$999,000.

Q. How is this loss made?

A. It is considered lost in accordance with the principle that when we do not get a thing that we may just as well have, we lose it, just as a man who misses a day's work is said to lose a day's wages. If we had used the paper and had let out the metal at interest we should have gotten the interest, not having gotten it, we lose it.

Q. If money be such a useful tool, is it not important to have a full supply?

A. Yes. Nothing is of greater importance.

Q. Is it possible to have enough money?

A. Yes.

Q. How is our present supply obtained?

A. Our standard money is now gold, and it is obtained in this way: Any man who can find the precious metal does so, and taking it to the mint has it coined into money.

Q. Are we able to find enough of this standard money?

A. No. It has become scarce. We can not find half enough for the money use.

Q. How is the deficiency supplied?

A. We use some silver. The silver is not so scarce, sixteen times as much of it being required to do the same work.

Q. How is silver obtained?

A. In the same manner as gold; anybody may find it who can.

Q. How does it get to be money?

A. The law now prevents our taking it to the mint for coinage, but the government buys a certain quantity of it each month and either coins it or issues paper certificates in place of it, which are used as money, while the silver is locked up in vaults where it remains just as idle and useless as when it was locked up in the rocks of the western mountains.

Q. Why is not silver coined and used for money just the same as gold?

A. It always was until 1873, when by a slight change in the law the coinage was stopped without the knowledge or consent of the people.

Q. Was it right to make this change in this way?

A. Clearly it was not.

Q. What was the object of making the change?

A. Two prevent the use of silver as money.

Q. What was accomplished by the change?

A. One source of the supply of money was cut off, and thus the quantity was made less.

Q. Did not this deprive the people of a most useful and necessary tool?

A. Yes.

Q. Who could wish to do that?

A. The selfish interests of any who had large sums of money owing to them would incline them to do this, because when money becomes scarcer its value increases in the same proportion, for the reason that it will buy more goods than before.

Q. Who are the sufferers by this change?

A. The people at large suffer the evils incident to a short money supply, but all who have debts to pay suffer particularly because it makes their debts larger and the interest heavier.

Q. How does paper money get into use?

A. It is made and issued by the Government.

Q. What determines the amount that is issued?

A. The will of the people as expressed in law.

Q. What is the direct effect of an increase of money?

A. The effect upon the country at large is to produce increased activity in trade and production; that is, to increase the wealth of the country. The effect upon debts is to make them relatively smaller and easier to pay; the effect upon prices of goods and values generally is to raise them. Those periods that are popularly

known as *good times*, when laborers are generally employed, and industrious men are getting richer, always occur when money is either abundant or increasing in amount; and, on the contrary, what are called *hard times*, when many people are out of work, and industrious people find it hard to pay their debts and make a living, always occur when money is either scarce or diminishing in quantity.

Q. What is the direct effect of a decrease of the volume of money, or a contraction of the currency, as it is called?

A. To check the production of wealth; to throw men out of employment; to increase the amount of all debts; to decrease the general prosperity, while it increases the gains of the creditor class—those to whom debts must be paid in money.

Q. How has the quantity of money been generally regulated in the past?

A. Largely by chance and accident.

Q. Is this a good way?

A. Manifestly it is not. The supply of any want should be a subject of intelligent consideration.

Q. What has been the general rule for the regulation of the issue of paper money?

A. To issue only what could be redeemed in gold.

Q. What are the objections to this plan?

A. They are many. (1) If the quantity of gold be too small for use as money, it may be and generally is too small to serve as a basis for paper money, and then it is impossible to have enough money. (2) This plan is only a make-believe way of increasing the amount of money, and does not accomplish the object sought. It does not increase the volume of real money at all; the paper money is only a kind of confidence money, and

when confidence is lost it becomes depreciated. It does not stand the supreme test ; it is like a railroad bridge made just strong enough for ordinary trains.

Q. What is real money ?

A. Real money is irredeemable money—that is always just the same—that does not expect redemption, promise redemption, or require redemption. Redemption is only applicable to such things as are naturally deficient or bad.

Q. Can real money, irredeemable money, be made out of paper?

A. Yes.

Q. Will it serve all the purposes of real money, and that perfectly?

A. Yes.

Q. Has the experiment ever been tried upon a large scale ?

A. Yes, The Bank of Venice maintained an irredeemable currency, which was at a premium over gold and silver for 700 years.

Q. What are the advantages of an irredeemable paper currency?

A. [1] A great saving of expense. [2] The supply may be perfectly regulated. [3] When worn it can be cheaply replaced. [4] It will not leave the country and thus be lost to use when most needed.

Q. How can its value be maintained?

A. Its value, that is, the purchasing power of each dollar, cannot change if only the quantity in circulation be increased just as fast as is required by the increase of population and business.

Q. How could such an important matter be best regulated?

A. Probably by constitutional amendment requiring the secretary of the treasury to prevent any fall in the general range of prices by means of the issue of new money.

Q. Why should it not be left to the action of congress?

A. Because the conflicting interests of different classes would cause perpetual conflict over monetary legislation, than which nothing can be worse.

Q. Is a contraction of the currency ever desirable or necessary?

A. Probably never. If the currency has been legally issued, even to excess, and trade and production have conformed to it, a change works vast injustice to the producing and the debtor classes, without corresponding advantage to the whole body of the people.

Q. How can the new money be got into use?

A. There are two ways that are good. It can be paid out for the construction of such public works as are needed, or it can be loaned directly to the people on good security.

Q. Is it safe for the government to lend money?

A. Just as safe as for individuals to do the same.

Q. How shall it be determined what is the proper quantity of money?

A. So important a matter should be made the subject of particular study and careful experiment. Perhaps no man living is qualified to express a definite opinion upon the subject. There should certainly be money enough to employ every laborer, because labor increases wealth and supports the laborer. There is only loss in idleness. Money being the thing with which we buy and sell, it should be so abundant that every valuable thing should have a price and find a purchaser. If great numbers of

farms, for instance, which are among the most valuable and useful species of property, are offered for sale without buyers, it would be very strong evidence of a scarcity of money.

Q. Can an irredeemable paper currency be kept at a par with gold?

A. It would be perfectly easy to do so.

Q. How could it be done?

A. By having little of it. Its value can be raised to any extent by simply contracting the quantity in circulation.

Q. Is it any advantage to the people at large to have their currency at par with gold?

A. None whatever.

Q. Is there any stability to the price of gold?

A. No more than to anything else. Its value depends entirely upon the law of supply and demand. If the quantity should be increased, its value would fall, while a diminishing supply will inevitably raise the value. Should our government demonetize it, as was done with silver, its value would be lessened; should it be universally demonetized, probably three-fourths of its present value would disappear.

Q. How can we trade with foreign countries if our currency is not on a gold basis?

A. Foreign trade consists in the exchange of the products of two nations, and is not affected by the fact of currency differences. No nation exports its currency until it is in the last stages of poverty.

Q. What is the difference between trading and trade?

A. Trading is the exchange of money for goods, or goods for money, but trade implies the competition of the double transaction—the exchange of our surplus



products for those of another. Domestic trade requires the use of money twice. Foreign trade is accomplished by a system of exchanges, by the balancing of accounts, and almost entirely without the use of money.

Q. Is it desirable to have different kinds of money in circulation in the same country?

A. No. The best kind alone should be used, and that is always a single kind.

Q. What kind would probably prove to be the best for the United States?

A. United States treasury notes, but differing in form from those in present use.

Q. How should they differ?

A. They should be irredeemable notes.

Q. What does this mean?

A. It means that the government should not promise to give something else for them on presentation.

Q. Why not?

A. Because it is ridiculous to propose to redeem a circulating medium which is intended for permanent use, and which, from the nature of the case, cannot be presented for redemption.

Q. What would be the advantage of this feature?

A. It would make the new money to be for all money uses exactly the same kind of money that gold now is, excepting that it would be cheaply produced, and an abundance might be had.

Q. But will such a currency circulate?

A. Yes. All human experience goes to show that a non-redeemable currency will circulate just as well as any. Our irredeemable paper currency at the close of the war circulated perfectly and performed every office

of money, and would have continued to do so down to the end of time if it had been let alone.

Q. Why is this so?

A. Because people want a currency for circulation, not for redemption.

Q. Will not such a currency grow cheaper and cheaper, and finally become worthless?

A. No. Such a currency cannot change itself. Those who use it cannot change it. Only the government can change it, just as it can change any other institution of the country. Any government good for other purposes is fit to make the money.

Q. But is it not necessary that dollars, which are to exchange for all sorts of valuable things, should have value in themselves?

A. Dollars do not exchange for valuable things. They merely help us to exchange one valuable thing for another. No one would give any valuable thing for mere dollars if he were obliged to keep the dollars. We take dollars only because we can get rid of them.

Q. What is necessary to the improvement of our currency?

A. Only that intelligent voters take the trouble to examine the matter carefully and refuse to believe what interested parties tell them.

Q. Who has an interest in deceiving the voter in regard to money?

A. That class of persons known the world over as the *creditor class*—a class possessed of large wealth—composed of such as do not work for a living, but who live upon the producing class by lending them wealth.

Q. What would happen if this class should have their loans all paid?

A. They would lose their income and be forced to work for their living.

Q. How do they seek to avoid this fate?

A. By keeping the rate of interest so high that the surplus earnings of the workers are absorbed by the payment of interest, leaving the principal of the debt untouched.

Q. How do they get such large interest?

A. By controlling the money supply and keeping it small. This is the secret of the tremendous efforts to keep gold the only real money. If all debts must ultimately be paid in gold, there is not the slightest probability that they will ever be paid, and the creditor class will go on drawing interest upon them forever.

Q. How can the producing class protect themselves and their children?

A. By abolishing the gold standard, under which the dollars in which debts and interest must be paid are constantly growing dearer. 2d. By constitutional amendment providing for the issue of real money in sufficient quantity to prevent any fall in the price of commodities.

Q. What would result from this?

A. Creditors would get their just dues, and debtors would pay no more than was due. The production of wealth would be stimulated by the presence of an ample supply of money, and a larger proportion of this wealth would stay with the producing classes, thus evening up society, making smaller fortunes and fewer paupers.

Q. What is the difference between industrial freedom and slavery?

A. The industrial people are free when the products of their toil will sell for enough money to support them comfortably, pay the interest upon their debts and leave

a little to apply upon the principal ; they are practically slaves when this small margin disappears, for in such case another enjoys all the profit of their industry, which is the essence of slavery.

Q. Are the three kinds of money mentioned all that are used ?

A. They are the only kinds coined or printed and made legal tender by law, but there is another kind that does the real work of money in effecting exchanges, and which, therefore, must be considered as money.

Q. What kind is that ?

A. It is called bank credit money.

Q. By whom is it made and issued ?

A. By the bankers of the country.

Q. By whom is it used ?

A. By all who borrow from the banks.

Q. How much of this money is used ?

A. Probably three fourths of the total sum of business transactions are accomplished with this kind of money.

Q. How is this money made ?

A. Its use is made possible by the universal custom of depositing all money in the bank, and using checks instead of lawful money. Private checks thus do the work of money. In cities they do almost all the work of money, the bulk of which remains in the vaults of the banks. The banks, having the money of their customers in their keeping, loan it out at interest, and the money loaned, mostly remaining in the banks or coming immediately back again, is loaned over and over again ; the bankers, meanwhile, getting the interest not only upon the actual money in their keeping, but on the total amount of their loans which may be five times as great.

It is as if a farmer could sell his crop of wheat without making delivery, and sold just as often as he found a purchaser.

Q. Are bankers, as a rule, in favor of an increase of the circulating medium?

A. No. They are violently opposed to it.

Q. Why is this?

A. Because, no matter how little money there is for the use of other people, it is all put into their hands to keep, and there is practically no limit to the making of their own peculiar kind of money, which they issue at will and lend at a good rate of interest. The smaller the amount of real money in circulation, the more completely do the banks control the business of the country.

Q. But how can banks lend more money than there is to be loaned?

A. They do it in this way: Suppose two men are trading, each with \$1,000 in money. They both decide to deposit their money in the bank and use checks. Now the bank has \$2,000. The two men are constantly making and depositing checks. A little money is used, but probably \$1,800 remains in the bank all the time. This sum the bank lends to two or three other men, who do not take it out, but have it put to their credit. It will easily be seen that so long as the money is generally kept on deposit and checks used instead of money, the banks can go on lending almost indefinitely.

Q. What are the objections to the use of this kind of money?

A. It puts the business of the country upon a basis of mere credit, which is liable to perish in a day.

Q. What do the bankers of the country desire?

A. That the government shall not increase the volume of real money.

Q. Why do they wish this?

A. So that the public may be compelled to use their credit money, which costs them nothing and yields enormous profits.

Q What does the producing class require for its own protection in money matters?

A. It is important, first, that the supply of real money be made ample, and second, that it should go directly to the people who are to use it in productive industry and at a low rate of interest.

## CHAPTER VII.

### The French Financial System.

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Having now shown you that the "Gold Basis" is a fraud, and can only be accomplished by the almost total destruction of all business prosperity, and hence slavery for the laboring classes, we feel that we have shown that the STORM CENTER of all our present depression of the business of the country, and in fact of the world, is the scarcity of money caused by making or trying to make two dollars and a half in gold pay seventy-three dollars of debt. We will now give you an article by Agricola on the French system of finance, which carried them through the "Franco-Prussian" war so successfully. Here it is :

#### THE ADMIRABLE SYSTEM THAT HAS MADE FRANCE PROSPEROUS.

The distinguishing characteristics of the financial policy of the French government is found in the fact that it assumes the duty of preventing alternate periods of inflation and their inevitable consequent contraction, and that to accomplish this end, whenever war or other exigency has caused an issue of irredeemable paper, it

has invested such issue with the character of *legal tender*—made it available for all purposes for which money could be used in France, whether the transactions were between citizens, or between citizens and the government, or *vice-versa*, and has taken measures to prevent the withdrawal of the paper until a continuous balance of trade had brought into the country metal money enough to supply the channels temporarily filled by the paper money with which the exigency had been met.

Colbert taught the French people—and Napoleon emphasized the lesson of Colbert—that *it is labor* that supports government and society, and that to arrest the employment of productive industry is to impoverish the public treasury and produce discontent and probable disorder among the people.

I hesitate not to say that had this lesson been borne in mind—had our paper money been, as the house of representatives, when providing for the issue of greenbacks, insisted that it should be, received by the government in payment for all dues, and had there been no attempt to retire any part of the paper which had been invested with the character of a *legal tender* until a metal substitute had been purchased by the export of our surplus commodities, we should never have been without the free use of gold and silver at a rate of premium no greater than that which has prevailed in France, where it never exceeded two and one-half per cent, and that but for a brief period, and that the question of specie payments would be one of as little consequence to the people as it now is to the French people, who use gold, silver and irredeemable bank notes interchangeably. Indeed, it is a fact that while the government will not permit the bank to close the operation by which the notes were made legal tender, the bank will not, without a compensatory premium, receive any considerable amount of gold and silver in exchange for its notes, because it holds the excess of bullion, and there is a tax of \$1.50 on \$1,000 of its circulation.



We pay our banks four, four and a half, five and six per cent for issuing paper notes which the government furnishes them. France, even in the greatest of exigencies, maintains her power over the money of the country by demanding a slight tax on circulation whenever she authorizes a bank to issue notes, irredeemable as our bank notes are, and pays the bank but one per cent on the amount of such notes loaned it when first issued.

The United States, following the dictate of England, adopts another and opposite policy. She restricts the volume of legal tender money to the narrowest possible limits available as a basis for bank circulation, and compels the enterprising and producing classes to pay tribute to capitalists, foreign or native, for credit upon which to conduct their undertakings. France seeks to give the whole people money. We, following the policy of England, seek to compel them to use credit or currency obtained through the banks at such rates of interest as the banks may exact.

#### THE GERMAN SYSTEM.

Germany, prior to the Franco-Prussian war, was as free from commercial and financial crises as France had been. Her circulation consisted of money which was silver, and of bank paper. The great volume of paper met with in circulation was notes of small denominations, many of them for less than one dollar of American money. But after the war she discarded both silver and small bank notes, and ordained a gold currency, established the Imperial bank, and prohibited the issue of any bank notes for less than the equivalent of five pounds or twenty-five dollars, and the mere attempt, ineffectual as yet to carry out this scheme, has reduced both government and people to a condition contrasting painfully with that which prevailed for years before their mad experiment was undertaken.

I will now exhibit some of the facts from which these conclusions have been deduced. After the French revo-

lution of 1848, on the night of March 15, the republic by decree, made the notes of the Bank of France a legal tender, limiting the increase to \$35,000,000, and reducing the denomination of the notes to one hundred francs or twenty dollars. One of the great difficulties in the official report of the transaction and its effects, was to print these 100-franc notes fast enough for public consumption, though in ten days the amount issued in this form had reached eighty million francs, and in an able article in the London Times, on February 16, 1849, a writer for that paper, which, one year before, had deprecated the decree as visionary, and one that would inevitably lead to the destruction of the commerce and industries of France, said: "M. D'Argost resolved to make every effort to keep alive what may be termed the *circulation of the life blood* of the community. Money was to be found to meet not only the demands on the bank, but the necessities both public and private of every rank in society. It was essential to enable the manufacturers to work, lest their workmen, driven to desperation, should fling themselves among the most violent enemies of public order. It was essential to provide money for the food of Paris, for the pay of the troops, and for the daily support of the *Ateliers Nationaux*. A failure in any one point would have led to a fresh convulsion.

As illustrative of the truth that it is *labor* and not *coin* that maintains society and government, I cite another brief article from the Times:

"No sooner was the bank relieved from the necessity of paying coin than it made every effort to increase its metallic rest. About forty millions of silver were purchased abroad at a high price. More than one hundred millions were made over in dollars to the treasury and executive department in Paris; in all, taking into account the branch banks, one hundred and six millions of five franc pieces have been thrown by the bank into the

country since March, and currency was thus supplied to all the channels of the social system."

Had the government refused, as ours did, to receive the notes which it had made legal tender among the people, gold and silver would have gone to such a premium that the bank, instead of buying specie, would have sold it, as our banks did, whereby some of them were enabled to declare dividends of one hundred per cent; but as paper, silver and gold were at par with each other, the bank could buy bills of exchange on foreign countries from French merchants, and thus procure specie with which it could soon resume cash payments. But the following experience of France, to which you are more particularly cited, is even more striking than the foregoing :

#### RESULTS OF THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

The war between France and Germany was declared July 19, 1870, and was terminated by the treaty of May 10, 1871. In April, 1870, the circulation of the Bank of France was \$288,750,000, and it held of specie and bullion \$261,550,000. In August the government required it to suspend specie payments, and by the same decree made its notes a legal tender. The first statement published after peace had been restored showed a circulation of \$442,000,000, with \$110,000 of specie.

In consideration of the suspension of specie payments, and the use of its notes as legal tender, the bank loaned the government \$306,000,000 at one per cent interest, and agreed to pay the tax above referred to on its entire circulation. When in August, 1870, the French armies had been defeated and consternation had seized upon the people of Paris, the Bank of France and the other credit institutions of that city entered into co-operation and determined, as a matter absolutely necessary to the maintenance of society, to advance to the people within a fortnight 180,000,000 francs—\$30,000,000—and it is a matter of history that not a *single failure* of any moment

took place in France pending the use and liquidation of these loans. If you ask to whom these immense advances were made, I answer in the language of the late Thomas Balch, Esq., whose long residence in Paris made him familiar with the financial magnates of Europe ; "To merchants, manufacturers, shop keepers, artisans and mechanics—to any citizen, whose books showed that his business, during a sufficiently long period, had been fairly prosperous, and whose industry and integrity was established, and of course much importance was attached to this latter fact." Many of the advances to artisans and mechanics were made without indorsement or collateral at all, or no other security, indeed, than a fair business and an honest name.

To enable the manufacturing interests to weather the storm, at a moment when all sales were interrupted, a decree of the National Assembly directed that warehouses be opened for the reception of all kinds of goods, and provided that the registered invoice of these goods, so deposited, should be made negotiable by endorsement. The Bank of France discounted these receipts. In Havre, alone, eighteen millions were thus advanced on colonial produce, and in Paris fourteen millions on merchandise. In all, sixty millions were thus made available for the purpose of trade. Thus the Bank of France had placed itself, as it were, in direct contact with every interest of the community, from the minister of the treasury down to the trades in a distant port. Like a huge hydraulic machine it employed its colossal powers to pump a fresh stream into the exhausted arteries of trade, to sustain credit and preserve the circulation from utter collapse and stagnation. The effects of this extraordinary operation were of commensurate public importance. In the midst of the most frightful and accumulated military and political calamities in the gradual environment of the French capital by the German hosts, the trade and labor of France were preserved and even

stimulated ; and it was altogether owing to this patriotic and most sagacious audacity that, in a period of special and terrible trial, no noteworthy commercial or industrial failure occurred, and that France was afterward enabled to provide for the payment, without serious difficulty, of an indemnity intended permanently to crush her, and which excited by its magnitude the astonishment of the world.

The decree of legal tender (*cours force*) fixed the maximum of the issue of the bank at \$480,000,000. It was, however, increased by the law of December 29, 1871, to \$560,000,000, and finally, by the law of July 15, 1872, to \$640,000,000.

What effect had the issue of this vast amount of paper money on gold? Did it, in accordance with the theory of Secretary Sherman and the British economists our tariff-tinkers and bullionists so delight to honor, expel the precious metals from France? Or did it show that their wisdom is folly, and that their so-called science, which John Stuart Mill truly said was "a science based on assumption," is no science at all, but a mere mesh-work of human reason based on false and delusive assumption? Fortunately the *facts* of history speak on this point with no uncertain sound. In November, 1871, when a large payment on account of the war fine, which as you know amounted to \$1,100,000,000, in addition to the surrender of the magnificent provinces of Alsace and Loraine and their wealthy and industrial people to Germany, was due, the premium on gold rose to its highest point, two and one-half per cent, at which, to the French people, exorbitant rate it remained for but a few days, and when the irredeemable circulation had subsequently been increased from \$460,000,000 to \$490,000,000 the premium fell to one per cent, and in October, 1873, when the volume of notes had actually reached \$614,000,000, the premium was merely nominal, and was only demanded on large sums. Legal tender, gold, silver and

paper money were then circulating in common and at par with each other.

As I have said, the war fine amounted to \$1,100,000,000. The total cost of the war to France has been officially estimated at \$2,000,000,000, and the direct loss to agriculture at \$800,000,000, yet the last payment on account of the war fine was made on September 5, 1873, or in two years and four months after the conclusion of the treaty of peace.

Does history present any such striking illustration as this of the harmony of the interests of a state and its people? The advance of the banks to the manufacturers in August, 1870, enabled them to maintain their industries, and, by paying *living wages*, to place the whole people in a position to not only respond to the demands of the government for taxes, but to meet its call for two loans, one for \$350,000,000, and the other for \$827,000,000, the tenders in response to the latter call amounting to the enormous sum of \$8,000,000,000, or four times the amount of the national debt of the United States at that time.

#### THE TRANSFER OF BULLION.

But omitting many facts that would be pregnant and instructive, I must, with a view to brevity, hasten to a conclusion. The German empire entered upon what proved a fatal experiment when, under the mistaken notion that she was to receive the bullion then held by France, and that which she might earn in the time stipulated for the payment of the fine, she determined to establish a *gold currency*, demonetize silver, and to exclude small notes from circulation.

The highest estimate I find anywhere of the loss of the precious metals by France in the payment of the war fine is \$240,000,000, but that this estimate is excessive is shown by French and other official figures. The French government shipped \$100,000,000 of specie and bullion directly to the German government. Yet the

tables of the two countries, and they are confirmed by the British tables of exports and imports of specie, show that France lost, through her intercourse with Germany from January 1, 1871, to December 31, 1874, but \$140,000,000 in gold and silver. This is the statement of Mr. Leon Say, made during the time he was finance minister, which he continued to be until McMahon changed his cabinet.

Great Britain took, temporarily, some of the French rentes, as she has during our troubles taken our five, four and a half and four per cent bonds, to be held as certificates of deposits, on call.

Between January 1, 1870, and December 31, 1874, the dates before mentioned, France sent \$110,000,000 more of gold and silver to Germany than she drew from her. Assuming (which there is no good reason for doing) that all this went to French account, it appears that Germany received but \$250,000,000 of cash from France in payment thereof. The truth is that France being, for the reasons heretofore stated, the creditor of all commercial nations, paid Germany in bills drawn against foreign debtors by the French people, or, in other words, Germany was paid in foreign merchandise, the imports of which, in excess of exports from January 1, 1870, to December 31, 1874, having been, according to the Bavarian Vaterland, \$1,132,000,000. Many of the earliest of these bills were drawn against German merchants and bankers, and to transfer money which had been in circulation in Germany to the imperial treasury was to withdraw it from commercial use. Thus the industrial and financial sagacity of the French government enabled France to revenge herself upon Germany by the methods with which she settled the unconscionable war fine imposed upon her.

#### AN INTERESTING STUDY.

The legal and actual condition of the Bank of France at this time furnishes an instructive study for those of

our statesmen who are endeavoring to bring about an absolute gold basis, by so contracting our paper currency as to reduce the price of wages and commodities which are already below par prices, or prices which ruled in the days of 1859-60, when our bank paper was supposed to be convertible into specie on demand. The Bank of France was burdened with an excess of gold, in addition to which, it is said, she holds \$100,000,000 in silver, which, like gold, is legal tender; yet the law would not permit her to resume specie payment until January 1, 1878. She did, for nearly two years, pay gold or silver in sums of one thousand francs or less, and, to escape tax on circulation, would have resumed a year before she did if the government would have permitted it.

As this statement may seem incredible to those not familiar with the facts, it may be well to state that the latest returns of specie held, and they were but three weeks old, coming down to August 30, show that the Bank of England held \$125,140,000, the Bank of Germany \$123,845,000, and the Bank of France \$442,483,000. Thus it appears that, allowing \$100,000,000 of the bullion in the Bank of France to consist of silver, and, assuming what is very far from the fact, that none of the bullion in the banks of England and Germany is silver, it is shown that the Bank of France has, by irredeemable paper, by which the industries of France were kept alive and active, accumulated nearly \$100,000,000 of gold more than the united stocks of the banks of both England and Germany. In view of these facts may not the stricken people of the United States wisely order a halt in the work of destruction of the circulating medium, and, following the example of France and the demands of the people's party, demand the remonetization of silver, with free coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1, and an increase in the existing volume of paper money, *full legal tender*, in quantity equal to the demands of trade?



This measure will enable them to go to work at honest wages, and to earn the gold and silver with which we can, in time, wipe out this accursed leech on our industries—this interest-bearing debt.

#### THE CONTRAST.

On May 10, 1871, the treaty terminated the Franco-Prussian war, and France submitted to a pay a war fine, as stated above, of \$1,100,000,000. The last payment was made to Germany September 5, 1872, or in two years and four months.

On October 31, 1865, our bonded debt was \$1,163,769,612, while our currency was \$1,996,678,770, or more than fifty dollars per capita. Everybody was busy and everybody well fed, well clothed and happy. In 1873 our bonded debt had increased to \$1,836,000,000, and our circulation had decreased to \$712,833,258, or from fifty dollars per capita down to seventeen dollars and forty-seven cents. Business failures, this year, reached the number of 5,183, with losses to the amount of \$227,499,000; while during the whole of France's trouble with Germany, and her payment on the same, there was not *one single failure* of any note.

Why this difference? Are her people better than ours, or is it because the French government looks after the welfare of *her whole people* instead of the privileged few?

## CHAPTER VIII.

### A Comparison.

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The financial action of France just related, and the fact that she paid Germany the last dollar of the \$1,100,000,000 war fine in a little more than two years, leads us to look over our accounts and see where we stand, and why? The report of our Secretary of the Treasury of Oct. 31st, 1865, shows that our bonded debt at that time was \$1,163,769,612, only a little more than the fine submitted to by France on May 10th, 1871, which she paid as above set forth. But we find that at the time she paid her last payment our debt had increased since 1865 to the sum of \$1,775,107,462. How came this difference? France kept up her circulation, kept all her people employed, and by that means produced the wealth with which she paid off her debt.

We CONTRACTED OUR CURRENCY (at the dictation of the Bankers' Association), destroyed our industries, filled our land with tramps and beggars, while millionaires grew up on every hand, a shoddy aristocracy, made so by law, not by industry, honesty, or moral worth. (We heard one of them say, only

a day or two since, I laughed and laughed just as hard as I could "lauff.") No shoddy there.

The capitalists (gold bugs) all cry, you want an honest dollar, don't you? Our answer is, we never saw a dollar in money yet that was not an honest dollar. The next question is, What are you going to redeem it in? We say money has no need for a redeemer; it is only promises to pay money (National bank bills, for instance), that needs redemption.

What we want is a dollar based on the brain and brawn, on all the wealth and prowess, the farms and homes, the land, the mines, the factories, and in fact on every dollar's worth of wealth in this broad land, and we want every dollar of it, whether of gold, silver or paper, to be a redemption dollar, and we know that such a dollar will be better than one of the banker's promise to pay gold; we know that such a dollar will cost us no interest, nor will it need half of the money of the United States lying idle in the treasury while the bonds with which it was put there are sapping the life blood out of labor to pay gold interest to the Rothschilds or any of the rest of the "gang" who killed Christ, and have been outcasts ever since.

But, says Shylock, it makes no difference to you whether you get one dollar a day and pay a certain price for your living, or two dollars per day and pay twice the price for living. Let us see if this is so.

John Doe, a "gold bug," owed \$1000, payable \$50 per year, interest ten per cent.

Richard Roe, a lunatic on money, owed the same amount on the same terms. Their other surroundings were just alike. In a dispute they made a bet on the above proposition, that it made no difference. The bet was \$10.00.

Result—first year:

John Doe.	Cr.	Dr.
By 300 days' work at \$1.....	\$300	
To paid interest.....		\$100
“ “ living .....		100
“ “ clothing, boots, shoes,		75
“ “ fuel, etc.....		25
		<hr/>
		\$300

Could make no payment on his place.

Richard Roe.	Cr.	Dr.
By 300 days' work at \$2.....	\$600	
To paid interest.....		\$100
“ “ living .....		200
“ “ clothing, boots, shoes,		150
“ “ fuel, etc.....		50
“ “ on mortgage .....		50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$600	\$550
“ balance .....		50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$600	\$600

Twenty one years pass and we find that Richard put his surplus at interest every year and kept it all

out all the time. John only just kept up his interest and paid nothing on his principal, and the mortgage still stood at \$1000.

Richard's account stood at the end of 21 years.

By balance .....	\$4165 32	
“ interest .....	415 63	
“ 300 days' work at \$2.....	600 00	
To interest .....		\$ 5 00
“ principal .....		50 00
“ clothing, etc.....		400 00
“ balance.....		4726 85
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$5181 85	\$5180 85

The last year expires and both die. Richard's account stands:

By balance .....	\$4726 85	
“ interest.....	472 68	
“ work .....	600 00	
To living, etc.....		400 00
To balance.....		5399 73
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$5799 53	\$5799 53

Thus Richard leaves his place free from debt, has the snug little sum of \$5,399 53 at interest, while John leaves his family penniless, and a mortgage on their home of \$1,000 00 for Shylock to foreclose, and send his poor widow to the poorhouse or the insane asylum. No comments needed. This simply proves the falsity of the scarcity of money theory being no detriment to the bread winners.

They tell us that gold never changes in value, a theory that every financial writer denies the truth of, all admitting that a scarcity of the metal will increase its value. If it be true that the value of gold never changes, why did the British government appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the matter? The best men she had were supposed to be on that commission. Some of the most foolish questions were asked. Here are a set of them. They were directed to inquire, among other things, "Whether the said changes are due, (1) To the depreciation of silver; or (2) to the appreciation of gold; or (3) to both these causes."

That is to say, the horses having started off even, you are to find out whether their having got so far apart "is due to" the yellow horse having got so far ahead of the white, or the white having got so far behind the yellow, or "to both these causes." The question means nothing and leads to nothing, and would only be propounded by an imbecile. But here is the finding of "Her Majesty's" Royal Commission. "We may summarize our conclusions upon this part of the case as follows: We think that the fall in prices of commodities may be in part due to an appreciation of gold, but to what extent this has effected prices we think it impossible to determine with any approach to accuracy." That is, the horses having fallen apart, may "be in part due to" one having got ahead of the other in the race, but to what extent that has put the other behind we cannot tell. Finding such senseless twattle coming from

this high quarter, I feel more charitable toward the brainless utterances of our subsidized press. Their interest was at stake, they well knew that a single gold standard meant the spoliation of at least one-third the value of all other property for money. This is their view in fact stated as follows:

"It must be remembered too, that this country is largely a creditor country of debts payable in gold, and any change which entails a rise in the price of commodities generally; that is to say, a diminution of the purchasing power of gold would be to our disadvantage."

You will see they admit that fall in prices means nothing but increase in the purchasing power of gold. Their admission of stable normal (silver) prices in India is confession of superiority of silver in stability of value.

I will now submit to the candid judgment of any man, or set of men, if it is not true that the rise and progress of any nation does not, and has not, always been on an "increasing" currency, and the decline on a falling or decreasing currency. Take a look at Sparta, under Lycurgus, "the great Spartan law giver," see his iron "Pecues," see when Shylock got there with his gold "Pecues," see Sparta go into a decline, decay and go out of existence.

Then look at our own country. When did she make her giant strides, and when did she begin to recede from her happy state? Was it not when Shylock got possession of our finances? When con-

traction of the currency began? That we began to recede. Most certainly that is the date.

There was a time in Europe when to be a Roman was greater than to be a king. At that time the empire had \$1,800,000,000; when she went to pieces she had only \$200,000,000. Such is the case in every instance. Money is the storm center in every nation. By the way, where will you find the grand old Roman to-day? Look at that Dago on the street corner there, that is he, made as he is now by centralization of capital in the hands of the few and making slaves of the many. Will you longer submit? I pause for your answer when next you vote. Vote once for YOUR OWN INTEREST, and not for the name at the head of the ticket; but for the principle of RIGHT regardless of the name of the party.

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## BEFORE THE ELECTION IN 1896.

During the campaign of 1892 the whole fight was made on the tariff question, and after Cleveland was elected all the legislation was on the money question, to secure the gold standard and destroy the prosperity of the people. During the McKinley campaign the whole fight was made on the money question, and now that they think the gold standard is a fixed fact, all you can hear is tariff, tariff, tariff—trying to make the people believe that all that is needed to make the people rich is to tax them heavily. The claim was made that all



that was needed to restore prosperity, set all the idle at work, etc., etc., was to elect McKinley. Well, McKinley was elected, and here is some of the prosperity which has been the result of their plan for

#### RESTORING CONFIDENCE.

Bank failures and liabilities where given :

The National Bank of Illinois.....	Liabilities	\$11,000,000
E. S. Dryer & Co.....*	“	1,200,000
Wasmandorf & Hineman.....	“	400,000
The Calumet Bank of Blue Island.	“	60,000
The Omaha Savings Bank .....	“	50,000
The Commercial Savings Bank of Roanoke, Va .....	“	110,000
The Columbia National Bank.....	“	318,009
The Minnesota Savings Bank.....	“	230,000
First National Bank, Griswold, Ia.	“	80,000

Whitehall Savings Bank, Mulamphy Savings Bank, The Atlas National Bank, The Dime Savings Bank, The Comstock Bank of Grand Rapids, Mich., The Missouri National, of Kansas City and others too numerous to mention and worry the reader with. Suffice it to say that there are more than a hundred of them, and every failure has robbed the depositors, nearly all of whom, in numbers, are of the working class, and their little all is swept away and swallowed up in the rapacious maw of avarice and greed.

Will you longer submit to the dictation of the Bankers' Association, or will you cut loose from their dictation politically, and be free men? The power is in your hands; will you use it? Or will you continue to be the

cringing, cowardly slave to the capitalist, and vote as he tells you, and thereby help him to keep the chains of poverty riveted to your feet? Recollect that

“If a government contracts a debt with a certain amount of money in circulation and then contracts the money volume before the debt is paid, it is the most heinous crime a nation can commit against a people.”

—LINCOLN.

If all our circulation was issued by the government, bank failures would have no effect on the circulation.

## CHAPTER IX.

### **Lands and Railroads.**

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Having shown the actions and plans of the Bankers' Association; how they have endeavored to subjugate the people and make them their slaves by controlling the money, we will try and put you on to another one of the schemes to reduce the toilers to as bad, if not worse conditions, than Russian serfdom.

The plan laid by them and the railroad companies was for capital to get control of all the land. With what success we will now try to show you. First, English Lords and Dukes (mostly) own and control 26,042,947 acres of land which is worked by "Tenant Farmers" on the European plan of slavery, as per Hazzard Circular. This would make 651,073 forty acre farms, and furnish homes for 3,275,865 people in families of five. Next you will find in Messages and Documents of 1885 that 14,929,121 acres were granted to railroads on which the contracts were never fulfilled. This would make 373,228 forty acre farms and furnish homes for 1,866,140 more people in families of five. Next see same document page

788, and you will 100,000,000 more acres stolen and granted, but was never earned at all. The railroads were built entirely on paper. But the people were robbed again, as this land would make 2,500,000 forty acre farms, and furnish homes and comfort for 12,500,000 more people. Let us now see how this huge fraud will look in cold figures. First, these Europeans have robbed 651,073 families of five of homes, or 3,255,365 people. The railroads have robbed 2,873,228 families of five each of homes, or 14,366,140 people, which makes a grand total of 17,624,005 people who are absolutely deprived of

	5		3		1		5		3		1
7		9		11		7		9		11	
	17		15		13		17		15		13
19		21		23		19		21		23	
	29		27		25		29		27		25
31		33		35		31		33		35	
	5		3		1		5		3		1
7		9		11		7		9		11	
	17		15		13		17		15		13
19		21		23		19		21		23	
	29		27		25		29		27		25
31		33		35		31		33		35	

R. R.

the rights of a home in this once free and happy country, by the manipulations of our officials. Please note right here that the government price of these lands is \$1.25 per acre, and at that price these railroads have received from the government \$143,661,401 in lands, all of which is an absolute steal. Who suffers the most? We, the people. We will next show you the plan by which the people are robbed again by these worse than highwaymen. It is in this wise. The railroad receives each alternate section of land for six miles on each side of the road, hence they have a very great advantage over the settler, as will appear by the foregoing diagram.

The railroad magnates say to the government, we will begin on Section 1; they take out no patents, hence pay no taxes. There is a stream runs through these towns, and has a nice water power at the center of the towns. Settlers buy government lands, plat a village, and put up mills, stores, etc., and the village becomes noted as a *smart* place.

What does the Railroad Company do now; they take out their patent on the land on each quarter township adjoining the village and put the land on the market, *for sale*, at from \$4.50 to \$8.00 per acre, it averages five. This land sold, and the country still improving, they take out patents on the rest and sell it for a like price. Now, what has the working man and his family lost in the deal? They have lost just the difference between \$1.25 per acre and \$5.00 per acre on two townships of land. This amounts to \$172,800 on these four townships. How

much would the same difference amount to on all the land grants in the United States? On the grants above set forth it would amount to \$143,661,401.00 on railroad land grants, while Europeans own 26,042,947 acres besides these railroad grants.

To give you an idea of the magnitude of these land grants, we will say they equal the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and Ohio. Still we wonder why we, as workingmen, are poor and have no homes.

Having shown you the amount we have been robbed of by the *land grab* scheme of these *honest rascals*, the railroad kings, we will now take up the cost of building roads, etc., taken from the report of the committee appointed in 1872 on Transportation Routes to the Seaboard, and published in 1874, which shows as follows:

	Capital.	Cost.	Water.
Erie Line N. Y. to Dunkirk, 459 miles,.....	\$108,807,000	\$40,000,000	\$68,807,000
N. Y. Central to Chicago, 980 miles,.....	\$190,188,157	75,000,000	115,188,137
Pa. Line from Phila to Chicago 890 miles.....	78,290,374	67,000,000	11,290,374
Totals.....	\$376,285,511	\$182,000,000	\$195,285,511

Making a total of \$195,000,000 on which to pay a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum; the commerce between the West and the East must annually contribute over \$19,500,000. Please recollect that this contribution is on water and not on cost, expenses and earnings compared. The above estimate includes all, stations and grounds, machine shops, water tanks, and all property and appliances appurtenant to the realty \$175,000,000, as follows:

Five per cent interest on \$87,500,000	
first mortgage bonds.....	\$4,375,000 00
Eight per cent dividend on \$87,500,-	
000, capital stock .....	7,000,000 00
Seven per cent dividend on \$50,000.-	
000 equipment bonds.....	3,500,000 00
To annual sinking fund .....	1,000,000 00
Total annual interest account includ-	
ing dividend and sinking fund....	15,875,000 00
Which would be a daily expense of..	43,496 00

And, divided among one thousand trains, would amount, per train per day, to \$43.49. This calculation is based on starting one hundred trains per day, each way, on first eight hundred miles from the seaboard, and fifty trains per day, each way, on the western division, which would give, on the whole road, one thousand trains moving in both directions all the time.

**LABOR ACCOUNT**—We compute labor of all classes, officers, agents, skilled and unskilled labor, required in all departments for operating, replace-

ment, maintenance of way, rolling stock, etc., at ten and two-sevenths men per mile of single track, making a total aggregate on this road of 36,000 men, which at the average of \$2.50 per day, would amount to \$90,000 per day, and, on the foregoing basis, to \$90 per train per day.

MATERIAL ACCOUNT (other than labor)—Rolling stock : Cost of repairs to engines and tenders per mile per day, 200 miles at  $2\frac{1}{2}$ c per mile ..... \$ 5 00

Cost of repairs and replacements of coal and freight cars at 19.7c each per day would be per train of 30 cars ..... 5 91

---

Total cost per train per day ..... \$10 91

The Pennsylvania Central gives same cost at 11 29

To be sure of enough, we put this item at... 12 20

Train Supplies : Coal, 10 tons per day @ \$3.50 35 00

Oil and waste per day, ..... 5 00

Water ..... 1 00

---

Total ..... \$41 00

Recapitulation—

Interest account, per train per day ..... 43 49

Labor account, “ “ ..... 90 00

Material, rolling stock, train, “ .. .... 13 00

Train supplies, per train, per day ..... 12 20

Material, roadway, “ “ ..... 41 00

---

\$199 69



Total expenses per train per day of moving 300 tons 200 miles, \$199 69.

The Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company, of carrying 520 tons a round trip of 190 miles at \$157.55, not including maintenance of way and rolling stock, at which rate 300 tons could be moved 200 miles for \$95.64. Add interest, \$43.49, maintenance of way \$12.20, and it makes \$151.33, leaving a margin in our favor of \$46.38 per day for taxes, damages; etc.

We believe every item for operating and replacement given above is in excess of actual cost.

EARNINGS.—A train of 30 cars carrying 300 tons 200 miles per day at 6 mills per ton per mile, is \$360. Cost of running the train as above shown is, per day, \$199.69. The bulk of freight, however, goes east, hence it is necessary to compute earnings and costs in both directions.

The Erie Railway Company's eastward tonnage was 675,285 tons; westward tonnage, 274,846 tons. Hence the earnings would be as follows:

The eastward train .....	\$360 00
The westward train .....	146 00

Total for both trains .....	\$506 52
Cost of two trains per day .....	399 38

Two trains, hence divide by 2 .....	\$107 14
-------------------------------------	----------

Surplus profit after paying interest and dividend .....	53 57
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Let us now find what the *honest* men get for *nothing* in this last item. Recollect, we have paid *all expenses*, repairs, labor, maintenance, interest and dividends, and this item stands as a net gain to them over and above all. It reads like this : \$53.-  
 $57 \times 1,000 \times 313 = \$16,766,410$  per year. For twenty years the sum reaches.....\$335,328,200  
 Add 100,000,000 acres of land at \$1.25 125,000,000  
 with nothing to show for it, and 14,-  
 929,121 acres, with a little to show  
 for it..... 18,661,401

---

and we have.....\$478,989,601  
 of which the people have been robbed almost entirely. Again, take the above lands, 114,929,121 acres, and multiply it by \$3.75, the difference between the government price and the price at which the companies sell it, and you will find another fraud on the labor of the country, amounting to \$430,784,103; now add the \$478,989,601, and we have the whole of this railroad steal, amounting to \$909,773,704. Still the workingman keeps on voting the rascals into power, and themselves into poverty, *for party's sake*. We figured the freight at 6 mills per ton per mile; they get 15.

Please recollect, the above does not touch the Union Pacific Railroad swindle, with its 287,000,000 acres of land. With its principal and interest, due to the government, of \$143,000,000. I suppose you recollect "*Credit Mobilier*," or "moving a credit." They moved it (the credit) off from their shoulders

on to the government's, and we have it yet—(*all but the land*). They stole that !

The Special Committee on Transportation to the Seaboard, appointed by the Senate in 1872, was composed of good men, that is,

William Windom, of Minnesota,  
 John Sherman, of Ohio,  
 Roscoe Conklin, of New York,  
 H. G. Davis, of West Virginia,  
 T. M. Norwood, of Georgia.  
 J. W. Johnson, of Virginia,  
 John M. Mitchell, of Oregon, and  
 S. B. Conover, of Florida,

who made an elaborate report after having occupied the entire summer of 1874 in an exhaustive examination from which we have reported. You will find in that report, at page 158, as follows: "In the matter of taxation, there are to day four men, representing the four great trunk lines between Chicago and New York, who possess, and who not unfrequently exercise powers which the Congress of the United States would not venture to exert. They may at any time, and for any reason satisfactory to themselves, by a single stroke of the pen reduce the value of property in this country by hundreds of millions of dollars.

An additional charge of five cents per bushel on the transportation of cereals would have been equivalent to a tax of forty-five millions of dollars on the crop of 1878. No Congress would dare to exercise

so vast a power except upon a necessity of the most imperative nature, and yet these gentlemen exercise it whenever it suits their supreme will and pleasure, without explanation or apology. With the rapid and inevitable progress of combination and consolidation these colossal organizations are daily becoming stronger and more imperious. The day is not distant, if it has not already arrived, when it will be the duty of the statesmen to inquire whether there is less danger in leaving the property and industrial interests of the people thus wholly at the mercy of a few men who recognize no responsibility but to their stockholders, and principle of action but personal and corporate aggrandizement, than in adding somewhat to the power and patronage of a government directly responsible to the people, and entirely under their control. What say you, my dear reader, you are a part of the government. Is it not time that the government either *owned* or *controlled* the Railroads?

## CHAPTER X.

### Thoughts and Opinions.

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To-day, August 28, 1895, if the government buys \$45,500,000 of silver bullion, that will make 65,000,000 silver dollars, and will cost every man, woman and child sixty-seven cents for the purchase. Government coins it into dollars. Now, if you want one what must you do; why pay the government *one dollar* before you can get it, either in labor or its products, which makes the dollar cost you \$1.67, as *you paid for the silver*. Why not let the miner take it to the mint and the government coin it *free*, and you buy the dollar of the miner and save the sixty-seven cents?

#### A Prophecy by the Immortal Lincoln.

"As a result of the war corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the *money power* of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands, and the Republic is destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxiety for the safety of

my country than ever before even in the midst of war. God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless."

M. Emil Lavalye, the distinguished English political economist, asserts that the scarcity of gold is the main cause of the decline in prices.

No reform, moral or intellectual, ever came from the upper class of society, each and all came from the protest of martyr and victims. The emancipation of the working people must be achieved by the working people themselves.—*Wendell Phillips*.

The greasy mechanics, the mudsills of society, will no longer be heard in their frenzied cries by legislative bodies nor by the courts of this country only to summarily silence their rage in a manner they are not asking for.—*N. Y. World, subsidized*.

When the communistic cry of "bread or blood" comes up from the laborer, *we* should administer a decoction of strychnine in quantities amply sufficient to meet the emergency in every case, that neither bread nor blood will disturb them hereafter.—*Chicago Tribune, subsidized*.

Falling prices and misery and despotism are inseparable companions. The disasters of the dark ages were caused by decreasing money and failing prices. With the increase of money, labor and industry gain new life.—*David Hume*.

Our legislators have been bought and sold till we think no more of it than the buying and selling of so many cattle and sheep in the market. Monopoly is a danger compared with which slavery was a small danger.—*Henry Ward Beecher.*

## CHAPTER XI.

### An Appeal to Reason.

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Here is where the old parties are?

#### THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

In 1861 it supported a platform which declared it unlawful to coerce a state.

In 1862 the democrats declared themselves in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war.

In 1864 they intimated that the war was a failure.

In 1866 they rejoiced in its success.

In 1868 they opposed the constitutional amendments.

In 1870 they accepted them as necessary, and in 1872 they approved them as wise; and to show how subservient they were, and how much indebted to the republican party for their principles, and how well they approved them up to that date, *i. e.*, 1872, that year they nominated a lifelong and always bitter republican—Horace Greeley—as their candidate for president. This was too much for poor old Horace; one dose of democracy killed him. *Requiescat in pace.*

In 1862 the democrats denounced the legal tender act as unconstitutional.

In 1868 they shouted themselves hoarse in favor of a



doctrine as to greenbacks, far more extreme than the wildest greenbacker.

In 1872 they pledged themselves to the resumption of specie payments. In 1876 they advocated the unconditional repeal of the resumption act.

They are guilty of the crime of killing the greatest man of the age—President Lincoln.

They have in their platform a part of the so-called "Sherman act," but still their "stuffed prophet," Grover Cleveland, called an *extraordinary* session of congress to repeal said law; and they thereby repealed a part, at least, of what they call principle—and so did the republicans.

#### THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

It was the republican party that placed the "except" clause in the greenback, so the money sharks might fatten from the toil of labor—which they did by depreciating the greenback, buying the bonds with them at par; and when all bonds were bought they passed the credit-strengthening act, which made them (the bonds) payable in coin, thereby robbing labor of \$450,000,000 of debt-paying power.

Next they passed a funding bill, to get the word "coin" into the bond.

They then demonetized silver, and now the bonds are payable in gold, which acts have swept away about eight hundred million dollars of the debt-paying power of the people.

They are guilty of "Credit Mobilier," Pacific railroad swindle, whisky frauds, land frauds, and frauds of every kind.

They have made prices of labor and its products fall more than one-half, and have swept into the coffers of the rich more than forty per cent of the entire assessed

valuation of the United States, which now leaves in the hands of labor less than twenty per cent of the property.

They, too, have killed one president (this, I suppose, to show they are the equals of the democrats in crime).

Their platform, too, embodies part of the Sherman act, the same as the democratic ; still they vote to repeal it.

The name republican has become the synonym for rascallity, embezzlement, fraud, mismanagement and official corruption.

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The democratic party stinks fearfully whenever its slavery and war record is stirred.

There is no measure of public policy upon which all republicans can agree.

There is no living issue of public interest upon which the democrats can agree.

There is no live issue of public interest upon which the two old parties are clearly antagonistic.

No democrat can give a good reason, based on a sound, living political issue, why he should oppose the republican party.

No republican give a good reason, based on the political doctrines of his party, for opposing the democrats.

They are both old spoils-hunters and pap-suckers.

They both favor hard money and the gold standard.

They both favor railway and steamship subsidies, and by granting them have burdened the people.

They have never fulfilled their promises to the people.

Democracy in the east is a different commodity from the western truck called by that name.

The leaders of these old parties have always been a merchantable article, taken by the highest bidder for cash.

The machinery of these old parties has become so rotten that it cannot turn out for the official station one honest man to the score. The rank and file are honest, but are misled by glittering generalities. They have turned the people's money into bonds, and then burdened the people with taxation to pay the interest on the bonds.

Their rule has practically made slaves of the many and masters of the few, filled the land with tramps, clothed industry in rags, and made serfdom the heritage of freedom.

They have outlived their usefulness, honesty and honor, and deserve to die and be forgotten.

There can be no hope for the people in granting either of them a future lease of power. By trusting, the people have been robbed and brought to financial ruin.

Leave the old parties and kill this vampire. Listen to the warning the immortal Lincoln pronounced: "I see a disposition on the part of gentlemen to place capital on a par with, if not above, labor. I warn the laboring people to beware how they surrender any right which they now possess, which, once surrendered, will surely be used to close the door of advancement against such as they until all of liberty shall be lost."

## CHAPTER XII.

### **“Come Let Us Reason Together.”**

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You know that it is not denied that by free coinage of both metals, France was able to maintain the parity of the two metals at her ratio of  $15\frac{1}{2}$  to 1, for over 70 years ; nor can it be doubted that had she continued free coinage, the parity would have remained till now. France's territory is smaller than some of our states. Our population is nearly double that of hers, and is distributed over an area of 3,000,000 of square miles. Our population is increasing at the rate of a million or more per year. Are we not warranted in saying that, taking into account our vast territory, our great wealth and demands for money for illimitable development, we are stronger, not only than France, but Germany and Great Britain included. We need no aid or monetary league with them or any of them. Geographically we are fortunately situated for bi-metalism.

On this continent to the south of us and to the west in Asia, there are 976,000,009 of people who use only silver as money. They are the best customers for manufactures and the chief source of foreign trade. We ought

to have this trade. Proper legislation on the silver question will greatly aid us in securing it.

The product of our gold mines will answer the demands for our commerce with western Europe and our silver mines with South America, Mexico and the Asiatics.

Nature has been bountiful in supplying us with great riches in mines of silver and gold. By the free coinage of both, New York and not London or Paris would be the money centre for the exchanges of the world. What is needed is the courage of men—*statesmen*—not the timidity of mice. Let the silver cord be loosened, the golden pitcher broken at the fountain of free coinage for both metals. The desire of the nations of the earth for money will not fail us on that account. None, unless it be England, and if *she does*, here is her reason for doing so.

Because her money will only have a purchasing power one-half as great as it is now. It will do more harm for England than defeat by arms on both land and sea could do in a thousand years. England is a creditor nation. Her greatest rival today is the United States. If things go as they now promise—free silver—this great American republic will soon rival her as the creditor nation of the world.

Now what makes the so-called wealth, glory and grandeurs of England under the gold monometallic basis? We all know that her fleets were sent to Egypt; they bombarded the port of Alexandria; her armies crossed the soil of Egypt, butchering on their way the Arabs

and Egyptians wherever found in their path in order to capture the capital of Egypt and form a government which could collect the interest on bonds sold at a heavy discount, for the purpose of enabling the sovereign of that country to build himself *twelve worthless, showy palaces*. And this same government, in the nineteenth century, which cried against the slavery of the negro in former decades, is now applying the lash to collect annually \$20 from each acre of ground that is under cultivation in Egypt. Again, in order to prevent the drain of silver from India to China (China being a great exporter of tea to India), in order to prevent the balance of trade dragging *despised silver* out of India to China in payment of the balance of trade, this great and glorious government of *England*, this great nation which some look up to—this great nation which the gold bugs ask us to copy, sent her war vessels to open the ports of China to the importation of opium from India, knowing that in so doing she was inoculating into the Chinese race a custom so foul, so low, so loathsome that not one gentleman who reads this would dare for one minute to support it. It were better that all the opium lands of India were sunk in the ocean than that one man should acquire the habit of smoking opium.

We believe we have said enough to convince any fair-minded man that all England wants, and all Wall Street and the east wants (we mean the capitalist part) is the fewest possible measures of value (dollars), so they will be able to dictate to labor the price of its products, and to the wage earner the price of his wages.

The question is now left in the hands of the voters. Will you vote for the free coinage of both silver and gold into primary money, at the ratio of 16 to 1, and freedom ; or will you vote for the single gold-standard and serfdom ? We are in no mood for trifling ; financial ruin stares us in the face ; we must and *will have relief*, and it must come through a reform in our monetary system. No tariff tinkering will suffice ; money, good sound money, and plenty of it, is our demand !

Dinna ye hear the slogan ? The car of progress is rolling on ; the men or parties that stand in the way will be crushed.

The clans of the silver forces are gathering, they are organized or organizing on every hill top. Will you be one of them ? If not, why not ? When Abraham bought the field and cave Macpelah from Ephraim, for a burying place for himself and family, he weighed him out 400 shekels of silver, current money among the merchants. This is the first record we have of money ; there is no record of gold as money for about 500 years after that gold was only used for making golden calves, etc., for the Jews to worship. They still continue to worship at the same shrine and now propose to force you and us to worship the same calf. Will you do it and remain a pauper ; or will you vote with us and be free men ?

## CHAPTER XIII.

### Conclusion.

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Is it not about time that the government should control the circulating medium, and be *obliged* to maintain it at a given per capita, instead of giving over their *sovereign* power to a set of men who have conspired to rob and ruin this Republic, as per *circulares* in the first part of this work? See the wreck and ruin around you on every hand. Is it your own fault, is it your neighbor's fault, that you have no employment? They tell you there is an overproduction, and that that is the reason there is no work. Ask yourself, is there nothing I want, and *cannot get*, by reason of having no money nor any work to get money with? Turn back and read the "Panic Circular," in the prior part of this work, and see if you cannot find there why there is no money, and why you have no work.

Try and find out how there can be an overproduction when the people are half clothed and half starved.

Do you, can you believe, the lying subsidized press of the country, owned and controlled by the Railroad Kings and Money Lords? Had you not



rather believe your own good sense and what your eyes see, your ears hear, and your body feels? Suppose every one of the seventy-two millions of people in this country should each receive one dollar to-night; would there not be \$72,000,000 spent tomorrow? Would not that small amount to each person do away with seventy-two millions of dollars' worth of the overproduction? It would, just as sure as the sun goes down tonight. Then suppose the same plan were followed for one single week, do you think you would be standing idle or *tramping* the country, looking for work? Who ever asked for this contraction of the currency? Was it you? Verily NO. Who ever asked for the demonetization of silver; who asks for the calling in and cancellation of the greenback? *Invested capital*, and no one else, except perhaps a lunatic or a fool. They tell you and us, in their speeches and through their lying, subsidized press, that the greenback is a debt of the United States. God pity the poor silly goose who will say it. How can the United States owe the United States a debt? When a man tells you that, mark him down as a *knave* or a *fool*, or perhaps both. Ask the poor dolt if he ever owed himself a dollar; if he says he did, let him explain how he paid it, and who he paid it to; and be sure and find out what kind of a receipt he got. In the sixties, during the period which is now stigmatized as one of inflation, the windows of business houses were not darkened and business men did not go as mourners around the streets. Neither did the laborer go

home at night without bread to his wife and children. Helpless millions did not cower and tremble at the approach of winter for lack of food and shelter. The public peace was not broken by riots in resistance to starvation wages. The courts were not principally occupied in enforcing collections, foreclosing mortgages, ordering sheriff sales or in punishing the destitute and outcast. These are some things that did not take place; others that did are equally striking. Good wages and good prices stimulated every laboring man's muscle, every business man's brain, and every power of machinery into the highest and most productive activity; hope and encouragement were in every heart; new farms were bought and cultivated, new workshops were opened, new manufactories were established, new towns and cities were founded and old ones expanded and improved; new railroads were built, giving employment to millions and bringing the remotest and most obscure regions into immediate contact with trade and civilization; new mines of iron, coal and silver were sunk into the earth, whose contents in return assisted in the glad work of a universal, individual prosperity. But I am reminded that this well-known condition of happiness was a delusion—that it was unreal and could not last! Why was it a delusion? Were not its comforts and blessings a reality to the American people? But why did it not last? But one answer can be given:

*The money power determined it should not last!*

The Garden of Eden before the fall was not more hateful in the eyes of Satan than was this picture of plenty and prosperity to those whose gain and prosperity depended on the scarcity of money, in the hands of the people, and consequent hard times. They began their work of spoliation more than thirty years ago, and they have made the downfall complete. They have haunted the halls of congress; they have thundered at the doors of the Senate; they have subsidized the public press; they have tampered with the Chief Magistrate of the nation; and they have even stained and soiled the ermine of the judiciary; they have fortified themselves in the high places of the Government, and, whether by deceitful persuasion, artful speech, or open menace and assault, they have not ceased to bring blight and ruin to the people. The very madness of avarice has impelled them from blow to blow, from act to act. The picture of general welfare that we have drawn, indeed, did not last. It has been defaced, torn, stamped under foot by the repeated acts of legislation inspired by remorseless greed.

Did you ask for any such change? Did the people ever send petitions there asking for any of the enactments of the last twenty or thirty years? We would have been glad to have been let alone and to have let the natural laws of trade and business work out a safe solution of every financial problem. We hear loud complaint that the financial question is under agitation coming from thoughtless or designing men. Every act of financial legislation, for the

last thirty or more years, has been dictated by invested capital, and not one by the people. Every agitation of the question in Congress has been made in the same interest and to gain additional advantage over the laboring classes.

Let the wealth producers of the country *demand* at the hands of the government in tones so loud that they cannot but be heard, that Silver shall be restored to its time-honored place in our monetary system ; that the Government shall coin ALL the money of the country, whether of gold, silver or paper ; and that every dollar shall be a *full legal tender* for *all debts* to and from the government and among the people ; and in quantities adequate to the demands of trade.

Let that "Octopus," the National Bank, die a natural death, and demand further government control of land, transportation and communication, the establishment of postal savings banks for the benefit and accommodation of the people. With these reforms and the adoption of the Initiative and Referendum, we can and will become the greatest nation on earth. But follow the path we are in now and we will soon be a nation of aristocrats and serfs. We will bid you a good-bye by giving you a letter from the pen of the illustrious Thomas Jefferson to Albert Gallatin, Oct. 16th, 1816. He said: "Put down the banks, and if this country could not be carried through the longest war against her most powerful enemy without knowing the want of a dollar, without dependence on the traitorous class of her citizens,

without bearing hard on the resources of the people, or loading the public with an indefinite burden of debt, I know nothing of my countrymen. Not by any novel project, not by any charlatanry, but by ordinary and well experienced means ; by the total prohibition of all private paper currency at all times ; by reasonable taxes in war, aided by the necessary emission of public paper of circulating size." So mote it be.

God's word standeth forever, it says, "It must needs be offenses come ; but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh." The time will come when, by the Divine judgment of heaven, the convict will be less condemned than the corrupt legislator.

## ADDENDA.

### Panics and Failures under State Banks' Actions in 1837, 1847, and 1857.

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The coin supply in the banks of the United States in 1836 (or State or wildcat banks), was only \$43,937,625. Banks increased their currency from 1834 to 1837 \$54,346,625, and decreased their coin \$6,022,385, which produced the panic of 1837.

Again, from 1845 to 1848, the banks increased their circulation from \$58,562,608 to \$128,506,191, or an increase of \$69,942,538, and only increased their supply of coin \$1,616,716. Bank of England suspended this year and drew heavily on us for *basis*, which resulted in the crash at that time.

Again, in 1857, the banks had increased their circulation from \$114,743,415 to \$214,778,822, or an increase of \$100,035,407, with an increase of coin of only \$11,980,073. Bank of England suspended again and drew on us for *basis*, this time to amount of \$7,000,000, which resulted in the fearful crash of that year.

Now, let us see how a pyramid inverted will look based on coin. Banks had the right to issue three dollars in bills on every one dollar in coin; and

receive three dollars in deposits on one dollar issued, (by looking the statement over you will see they issued ten or more), but say three and we find as follows:

In bank.....	\$1 00, on which they
Issue.....	3 00 in currency, and in
Deposits.....	9 00.

Or, we find \$12.00 in bills resting on the one of coin.

England draws \$7,000,000, and the basis is gone from under \$84,000,000, as in 1857. Result, 4,000 failures. Loss, \$200,000,000. Fearful robbery.

Our present panic is on, not from bank failures but by contraction of the currency, and caused in the year 1893 16,655 failures, with liabilities to the enormous amount of \$1,754,597,000. How does this look? GOLD BASIS and ENGLAND as usual ! The same old bug-bear, GOLD BASIS !

## THE REMEDY.

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The only remedy is the restoration of the bimetallic standard of money, leaving the supply of metallic money to be regulated by the same laws that govern the supply of everything. The people themselves in this country must take the matter in their own hands and rescue themselves, or suffer the consequences ; and the consequences will be that they will lose their homes and their independence and find themselves in no very long time in the condition of the laboring classes of Europe or the Serfs of Russia and the tenant farmers of Ireland. This condition is being hastened by the destructive competition which the fall in the gold price of silver enables silver-using nations to maintain against debtor gold-standard countries.

In his recent prize essay on this subject, Mr. George Jamieson, British consul at Shanghai, China, says : "The result of all this must be that in the competitive manufacturing industries of the world, the divergence of value between gold and silver will inevitably lead to a gradual transfer of all the great manufacturers from gold-using to silver-using countries. Nor can a debtor nation prevent this by protective tariff."

England in 1873 bought 730,485 bushels of wheat from India, and 56,566,396 bushels in 1892. This is the result of demonetization. How do you like it, Mrs. Farmer? You are in the same boat with us.





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